

RECREATION

Formerly THE PLAYGROUND

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— July, 1933 —

Playing in the Water

By Floyd Eastwood

A Progressive Game Party

Tin Can Craft on the Playground

By Charles M. Graves

Nature Activities at a Camp for Boys

By J. D. Read

Need for Recreation in Times of Depression

By Lloyd Burgess Sharp, Ph. D.

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RECREATION

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Activity Versus Possessions

THE UNCERTAINTY as to material property values under present conditions has resulted in greater desire for activity, for craftsmanship, for fulfillment, for creativeness.

No longer is it a disgrace to be poor. Just having property is no longer considered an excuse for being.

Are you a person? Can you do something? Have you some skill? Are you going somewhere? Are you alive? Do others have pleasure in your enjoyment of life? Do music, art, skill, have meaning for you? Is there light in your eyes? Is there healing in watching your strength because there is a swing, a wholeness to your living, your being, your life?

We have many, many words for possessions, for things, but we lack even words for referring to vital living, to being alive, wholeness of personality, gracious living—there are no phrases that tell the story of abundant life, of satisfying life. Art and sport and satisfying activity and fulfillment are perhaps as little objectionable as any words we have.

Hunting, fishing, are good words not so much because of game and fish, but because of woods and nature and activity. Swimming, skating, sailing, are simple, clear, definite words and carry a picture of activity and aliveness.

Play, recreation, leisure-craft, are poverty stricken words because as yet we have put so little meaning into them.

Emerson, Theodore Roosevelt, Lindbergh, Byrd, Helen Wills Moody, Jane Addams, such names carry the picture of skillful, adventurous, creative living of a life.

Education ultimately will imply more than it does today as to helping people to come alive. After all that is what recreation leaders care about. What do people want to do, want to be in order to live in this world here and now? What gives enduring satisfaction, the memory of having lived?

The more sides a man has to his nature, the more he sees the art and skill required in all forms of human activity, the more inclined he is to say that nothing human is foreign to him. Theodore Roosevelt was no less a man when he was galloping on horseback, or swimming, or boxing, than when he was listening to the best music in the world, or when he was studying the birds in the forest. There are twenty-four hours in each day. There are many sides to men who live completely and fully, and much goes into the making of a life.

The art of living is the art to which the recreation worker devotes himself, though he must remember that he is not the only one who does so. It is his task to help men, women, and children to live now, fully, and to have present full living lead to more permanently satisfying living as the years come and go.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

July, 1933

July Ushers in Vacation Days



Courtesy California Parent-Teacher

"Don't let them cut down on your education. Don't let them cut down on agencies dealing with children. The children mustn't suffer in this economic crisis. You can

always build your bridges and your roads. If you neglect your children you can never build them again." *Lady Astor in the Boys' Club News Bulletin, January, 1933.*

The Flower Market Tot Lot Playground

In the June issue of Recreation Paul Shriver, Philadelphia Playgrounds Association, tells of the beginning of the Flower Market Tot Lot Playground. In this number he completes the story of the first four years of this interesting venture, still in its infancy.

DURING THE third year of the existence of the Tot Lot Playground we enforced very strictly our age limit of eight years, and as a result there was room for more children from outside our immediate block. We therefore initiated, with the help of an old Ford coupe which we bought, the Traveling Playground.

The Traveling Playground Makes Its Rounds

The number of small children who came to the playground were cared for by the leader during the afternoon while I made visits to adjoining courts, streets and communities within a radius of four blocks. In the back of the coupe we piled the street barriers, fire plug spray, two cases of milk and boxes of Graham crackers. The milk and crackers were contributed daily by a group of interested citizens and represented what was left from assembly period when we gave the younger children from 150 to 200 bottles of milk and three Graham crackers each.

The older boys wanted to ride with me in the old rattletrap machine and to help turn on the spray and distribute the milk and crackers. Here was an opportunity to keep them busy even though they were not allowed on the playground

except as helpers. In the course of our routine we visited every afternoon a different crowded corner. There we put on the fire plug shower, cooled off the children who came out of little side courts and hovels, and fed them milk and crackers, enforcing the age limit of eight years for feeding. After refreshments we played several games with the children or told them stories. Then we advertised our playground and personally conducted the smaller children in the crowd to the playground. Thus the small children were protected from traffic as well as from children from other streets who might harm them. The parents were interested and helped, for formerly many a mother had been afraid to let her child come because of the railroad tracks, and bridge or street traffic. The result was that she had kept the child at home, and a survey proved that these children under eight years had the highest number of fatalities because when the mother was busy the little one wandered away and consequently was hurt.

Our traveling playground was a great success and the results were far reaching. Many new

It was one of the children who thought of making orange crates serve as chairs in the story hour





children came every day. Activities were more easily carried out; donations

of scrap material were more readily obtained. We even received a piano which was a helpful asset to our assembly and moving picture programs. Occasional visits of the leader, board members and reporters of various papers at our stops helped to spread the spirit of good-will.

To increase the spirit of pride in the ground and create an interest in regular attendance, we began the "Tot Lot Tattler." The editor, reporters and all directors were children from the playground. Anyone was allowed to write articles reporting events of interest. The newspaper was made of long strips of white wrapping paper, and there was only one copy. This we hung in strips on a place painted for it on the high board fence. From this project grew a pride in achievement and a spirit of good humor.

Still another means which we used to raise general standards was the crowning of the King of Freckles and the Queen of the Mardi Gras. Real thrones were erected and decorated from scrap materials, burlap dyed in suitable colors, and old sheets for trains.

The Playground Village proved one of the most fascinating projects undertaken at the grounds

men furnished us with piano, banjo and guitar music which made an excellent accompaniment not only to the pictures but to the community sings held during the intervals of twilight and darkness. Thus the playground made its first real start toward a community affair with services furnished for all ages.

Motion Pictures

The time was now ripe to interest the older people. We were fortunate in securing the services of the Philadelphia Electric Motion Picture Department which showed regular feature pictures interwoven with the industrial story and "Our Gang" comedies. Later we obtained excellent pictures, both silent and vitaphone films, from the Bell Telephone, the Philadelphia Gas Works and other industrial companies. Sometimes these companies sent operators; on other occasions we secured the machine and films and ran the show ourselves. The electricity was furnished by various nearby fruit commission houses. The machine was set up on a table in the rear of the playground and the pictures flashed on a large whitewashed space on one of the high brick walls of an abandoned store. The young

men furnished us with piano, banjo and guitar music which made an ex-

The Playground Village Arouses Pride

The Inter-State Dairy Council furnished us with several puppet shows, story-tellers and posters or plays for assembly with costumes to suit. This helped to promote interest in handcraft.

The final climax of handcraft work for the season was an excellent playground village. The Leaders' Club grew considerably in numbers during the building of "Flowertown." Many interesting buildings came into being. There was, for example, a private estate, a spacious red brick house with bright purple awnings, vivid yellow paper curtains, and a green trellis covered with well made artificial sweet peas. Splashes of green paint on a cement walk represented grass and sticks with bits of green tissue from orange crates tied around their tops did well for trees. Small

lamp posts, whitewashed streets, a livery stable, stores, a blacksmith shop and garages side by side with pasteboard wooden homes neatly painted, served to complete the picture.

At the End of the Third Year

Our conclusions at the end of the third year were nearly the same as those of the second. Even though there was an improvement in the morale of the community and in playground activity and influence, there were still many children who had not been reached. A selfish spirit still prevailed with not enough constructive activities in evidence. There was need for greater emphasis on certain activities to promote carry-overs of the activities which would serve as constructive recreation during the winter months. Funds were scarce, only about \$50 having been spent in three years for such materials as crepe paper, nails and other supplies. All the rest of the materials used in the various activities were salvaged or begged from various sources.

And Now the Fourth Year!

Now for the fourth year which early in the season bade fair to be the final year of work in this neighborhood unless the people took more interest and tried to help themselves. The prospect was discouraging. We sometimes wondered if we were not wasting our time and might not better go to another neighborhood. How glad we are that we didn't!

Several pre-season visits to the ground in April brought pleas from all ages: "Give us something to do!" To meet this request we organized a civic committee among certain influential adults who helped us to assemble scrap wood to develop projects which could be given the children to work on weeks in advance of the summer playground season. At scheduled meetings a group of the older boys and girls would come with saws, hammers and any other tools they could find. We made flower boxes, small houses, toys and other handcraft patterns to serve as models for our handcraft program when the season opened. The civic committee of adults helped

to get the dirt, fill the improvised flower boxes, plant the seeds and water and cultivate the flowers to be installed later at the playground when it had been officially opened. They also set to work to clear off the ground which this year had become covered with bricks and timbers from the old abandoned factory torn down by the children during the winter for fire-wood. In this way we secured more space for the playground.

By the time July first had rolled around, all ages were willing to help and considerable interest had been created in the program of the coming summer. Much cleaning up still had to be done after we began our playground program, and as the first flush of high spirits wore off it became necessary to devise some idea to speed up the work. The *Evening Ledger* described the scheme we concocted as follows:

"Play is an attitude. It is not so much what one does as how he feels about what he does that makes the difference between play and drudgery. It is a mistake to let a child acquire a sharp distinction between play and work, to believe that play is pleasurable and useless while work is necessary and distasteful. Let him learn that all activity is fun, that life itself is a game, that a vocation can, and should, be just as pleasurable as an avocation, and you have started him on the pathway to a wholesome adult life. The greater the number of diverse activities the child is encouraged to enjoy, the greater his chances of keeping the zestful attitude of play toward all of life."—*John J. B. Morgan, in Child Study, December, 1932*

"The supervisor of Tot Lot Playground had to have assistance in moving some bricks, but it was no 'go.' Then he found an old gasoline can and with a stick painted targets on the tin cans. Very casually he placed the cans in the center of the spot on the official dump where the bricks were to be carried. By the end of the afternoon all of the

bricks had been thrown at the target and the ground was cleared."

Next we decided to make each portion of the ground mean something in order to combat the destructive instincts and promote constructive activities for all ages and groups. This would, at the same time, protect the principal portion of the playground for kindergarten play work, and the small tots would not be frightened away again by physical conflict with the older ones.

The older boys wanted to use the plug spray to clean up and cool off after their arduous activities, but this year the Water Bureau had not seen fit to give out any permits. Instead of sitting down and doing without, as they formerly would have done, this now awakened group set to work. In two days, with the help of a carpenter and some cement, broken up bricks and scrap lumber were converted into a small wading pool, 18 by 18 feet and 1½ feet deep. When it was finished

the groups were so happy over their achievement that they worked without ceasing the rest of the season! The signs, "Bathing Ocean" and "Ocean Boardwalk" were painted for the children by a sign painter. The boardwalk was made of scrap boards; the beach of gravel and sand left over from the wading pool.

This took care of one nook. In another corner the younger boys built benches and made a "clean up corner." There they all washed their hands before milk period and handcraft work.

To a certain extent we had now cared for the small children, but the older boys began to beg us to let them stay and help so an activity had to be provided for them. A "Safety Club" proved the solution. At the suggestion of Mrs. Elizabeth Hanley, our dramatic director, a "Careful Club" was organized for girls, a "Safety Club" for boys. The Safety and Careful Club members were used as supervisors of various activities, and every day at 2:00 P. M. and 7:00 P. M. they made trips under the watchful eye of an adult volunteer to every part of the neighborhood within four blocks on all sides of the playground. All children wishing safe conduct to the playground were sent in charge of these "safeties."

An Open Air Theatre

In addition to the neighborhood safety work carried on by the safety squads, we conducted open air movies on safety in scattered streets near our playground. Let us give you a picture of one of our open air theatres conducted in the name of safety.

Before the performance the children go around the neighborhood and everyone who wants to join the parade can do so, in fancy costume or otherwise! Some hold signs and banners reading "Safety first," "Play in the playground," "Cross at Crossings." Others bang on lard cans, gasoline cans, oil cans—anything to make a noise. The noise comes nearer and a horde of children come trooping in.

And now for our stage. Our stereopticon machine is placed on a table in a roped off space in front of a store whose friendly owner allows us to use his light socket. Across the street another space is roped off as a stage and a white curtain is hung on the sidewall of a house. In the street and all around the roped off spaces are rows and rows of chairs, and orange boxes supporting boards. All the children who can possibly get in are packed shoulder to shoulder. The others sit

or kneel on the pavement and curb, hang from fences or out of second story windows or other vantage points. They are a merry crowd, and as they wait they whistle, applaud or sing in groups. Often we have a community sing until it is dark enough to show the pictures.

The Country Store

The Keystone Club Safety Department has provided us with posters, safety material and plays. One play containing a country store setup was put on by the children for a special assembly and official initiation of the Safety Club members. This store was the means of promoting many future activities. It gave the children a needed stimulus for their imagination and the store, with its empty cartons and tins, was constantly in use. Our "Tot Lot Tattler," most of whose announcements are written or told by the children, has the following to say about the store:

"Ye Olde Flower Mart"

"There positively will be no credit given at our store. Read the signs and you'll understand our policy. No credit—no trust. We pay—you trust."

Business of all kinds was conducted in the store. Worn out cardboard shoe boxes, rags of dresses and merchandise of all kinds were handled. Paper money, stage money, coins from bottle tops and poker chips passed as the medium of exchange. The clerks at times were legion, and we were occasionally almost deafened by the bedlam of the hawkers as they cried their wares and imitated a real life situation.

Corners of All Kinds

An "Oldsters' Corner" was established which kept the young men in a certain place without interfering with other activities. These boys were a real help in maintaining discipline and setting a good example for the youngsters.

Other nooks and corners of the ground were made into athletic corners. One place was a jumping pit surrounded by nicely whitewashed bricks arranged in a neat design. In another we placed a discarded water pipe as a chinning bar. In still another we had a baseball pitching frame. These were excellent places to work off excess energy that formerly had led to destructive activities.

The flowers grown in the abandoned lumber yard were placed in the boxes on all sides, on tops of walls and every place where we could stick up

a trellis for them to climb. Each child had his own garden with a cross stick sign denoting his ownership stuck in the ground. The first thing the children did when we opened Tot Lot every day was to see what had happened in the new garden. At the end of the season we used the flowers to stage a Flower Mart as befitted the legendary history of the grounds. Jean Barrett, *The Record's* feature writer, describes it:

"In the confines of their dirt covered corners at the end of a reeking court, the children built booths and decorated them with gay paper. Young sub-debs, thinner even than fashion demands, volunteered as 'salesladies.' There were refreshment booths with real lemonade and milk and a 'hot dog' stand as well. Of course, these delicacies had to be sold!

'There isn't any money at Tot Lot—not a dime—out they overcame that—they made their own! They turned out volumes of it, even thousand dollar bills, and issued it from their own bank parked in the corner of the lot—a tremendous fortune. They went up to the teller's window and ordered as much money as they wanted. But regardless of the size of their 'rolls' each child bought the same things—something to eat, a glass of milk, a truly lovely nosegay of flowers or a potted plant to take back to the tenements they call home."

Thus Philadelphia children were the first to inaugurate the barter system!

Another climax in the handcraft program for girls was the doll exhibit. From crown to toe the dolls present were the loving work of their mistresses. There weren't any dolls that cried "Ma-ma" or opened or closed their eyes.

Of course, it was a very

exclusive affair. There were candy dolls, vegetable dolls, paper dolls, dolls of all kinds. On a bed of pink crepe paper roses Sleeping Beauty, resplendent in a robe of yellow crepe paper and hair of yellow silk embroidery floss, dreamed of the Prince, as a dainty white crepe paper bride bent inquiringly above her, and over in one corner the Vegetable Queen, her fluffy green skirts the leaves of a head of lettuce, her bodice a slim carrot, her arms string beans attached by means of toothpicks and her head a marshmallow topped with a carrot plume, smiled democratically at the whole throng.

As a result of the village, the exhibits and other handcraft work, combined with the motion pictures, a startling effect was shown in many a family's mode of living. Tenants prevailed on landlords to equip some of the houses with gas and electricity. It was pressure of public opinion against degredation.

Our staff this year still consisted of one teacher and myself, but it was supplemented by unemployed volunteer workers and the famous "Toc H" Fraternity which sent two young men every night to help. Barent Landstreet, their leader, with his enthusiasm also supplemented our staff, and with his spirit of service dignified the playground activities and kept the interest of the young men in the "Oldsters' Club" at a high pitch.

As the climaxes were reached in various activities, we began to notice carry-overs of games, songs and activities into the courts during weekends and morning periods when the playground was not open. The children had begun to learn that most important factor in a child's life—how to play. This carry-over cropped up also among the older crowd, for they didn't want the work to stop. They wanted some place where they could congregate at the end of the season and some activity instead of the usual drinking, gambling, crap shooting and billiard parlor vices.

Clubs Multiply

From the bank which owned the delapidated house at the end of our court we obtained permission to use the house rent free in return for



Courtesy Louisville Recreation Division.

One of the numerous activities which help to make a club program interesting to older boys

remodeling it. The young men fixed holes in the floor, put bricks in the walls, window panes in the frames, hung curtains at the windows, papered the walls, brought furniture and otherwise adorned their club house known as the "Castle Club." With each visit we made we found improvement. Regular parliamentary procedure was followed; initiation rules were observed, and part of the funds raised was used for welfare purposes.

For a time after the close of the playground the Castle Club used the open space for fall sports. Youngsters were there in almost as large numbers as during the summer season. The boys under sixteen decided they wanted a club and formed what is known as the "Palace Club," with headquarters in an abandoned house across the alley from the Castle Club. The girls, too, caught the fever and became a branch of the Needle Work Guild. In this surprising manner we witnessed the influence of the summer continuing on through the year!

One of the most remarkable activities of the Castle Club is the work of its welfare committee. A survey was conducted in the neighborhood by the committee which resulted in the selection of six families, who, according to the findings, were not being assisted by welfare agencies and were greatly in need of help. The survey also brought to light the fact that certain families who were receiving food orders from the city unemployment fund, according to the club's report, were "chiseling." The indignation of the members was not only genuine but showed how far they had advanced in new standards of justice, for "chiseling" had been one of their own chief occupations in the past! Out of their club dues of ten cents a week these members are paying the expenses of the club and providing food and fuel for six families. In January the club conducted its first dance—a success in every way. One-half of the profits went to the welfare fund.

When inclement weather caused the discontinuance of outdoor sports at the playground, the boys began to ask where they could find a sport center large enough to have basketball, boxing and other sports. They came to their old friend, the Playgrounds Association, and asked that the matter be considered. Mr. Landstreet undertook a study of the district. He found another club, "The Acorn," similar to the Castle Club at the other end of the seventh police district, who were as keen to have larger headquarters as were the Castle Club boys.

With the aid of Captain McFarland a survey

was made by the police of vacant property in the entire district. A three story building with a fine basement was discovered. Both The Acorn and the Castle Club agreed to enroll 150 or more members. Captain McFarland was most enthusiastic. "I do all I can," he said, "to prevent first offenders from being locked up in my station. Once a boy is locked up, no matter how trivial the charge, it is the beginning of his gang career and we know he will be back again with more serious charges. This club will be a wonderful thing for the seventh district. No longer will the boys be able to find an excuse for corner lounging or getting into trouble because there is no place of interest to go. I am making arrangements with the magistrate to issue a membership to the club for first offenders."

Assured of the most cooperative and friendly attitude on the part of the police and impressed by the demands made by the boys themselves, the director of the Playgrounds Association decided to sponsor the club and in January the Center Club was a going concern. The preliminary organization of activities of this club was not the only unique feature of the venture. The Playgrounds Association agreed to finance the first month's expenses while the boys conducted their membership drive. Dances, raffles and admission charges to special sports events were some of the means found to help cover operating expenses. From that time on the members agreed to make the club self-supporting. The director and assistant director were loaned from the staff of the Playgrounds Association.

The executive committee was formed by appointing the officers of the Castle and Acorn Clubs. It was not long before many on the police force in the seventh district became members of the club and made good use of its facilities when off duty. House matches between teams of police and the boys were played in basketball, volley ball, boxing, checkers and other games.

Again the "Toc H" men volunteered and appeared every night to help.

The club is open every afternoon except Sunday and every evening including Sunday from 7:00 to 11:00 P. M. Its spirit is notable. The free and friendly intercourse between the police and the young men is the result of a number of discoveries. The boys find the "cops" fine fellows and the "cops" find the boys equally "good kids." The barrier formerly existing is breaking down.

(Continued on page 202)

Playing in the Water

By FLOYD EASTWOOD

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In the series of lectures given last year by the Wingate Memorial Foundation, Mr. Eastwood presented some unusually interesting material on water games. A part of his lecture, as it appeared in *Scholastic Coach*, January, 1933, is reprinted here for the benefit of readers of *Recreation*. All of the 1931-32 lectures are incorporated in a book entitled *Aims and Methods in School Athletics*, published by the Foundation, 57 East 56th Street, New York City.

PLAY is a biological necessity. We must be active to live. Those individuals who are not active, we say in the vernacular, "pass out of the picture." They assume the horizontal. This is due to the biological drive or pull to activity.

Play is a psychological need. Play is interesting and it gives the opportunity of learning a new skill in an interesting way. Therefore play has a psychological drive.

Play is sociological. We play also for social approval. We might say that this is the sociological drive. You say, "I am doing this because I get a 'kick' out of it." You do things because you get a kick out of them, and you obtain that kick from someone's else reaction to you—social approval, if you wish.

Game situations give an individual an opportunity to obtain social approval. You see individuals commend each other in games when someone makes a good play. What does this social approval depend on? It depends on success. So remember, in all your games, to give every individual some chances of success.

Learning to Play

You will find that you have laws of learning to consider when teaching a new game. First you must have the individual want to play the game. Then that individual will want to continue to play so as to become more proficient, because he anticipates the feeling of pleasure which accompanies success.

What has this to do with the problem of swimming fears, that we all know so much about, and

so little how to correct? In the game situation, we have the opportunity of overthrowing to a certain extent the fear of loss of support which is often experienced in the water.

We have considered that games are enjoyable and that we learn many skills by playing. Games, or some of them, may be used in reconditioning swimmers and removing swimming fear. I want to stress the need for a proper attitude on the part of the instructor. The attitude of the teacher may ruin the whole game. He may stand on the sidelines and let the game proceed and never enter into the spirit of it.

In games, you should notice one item that may ruin the interest in play when swimming—the coldness of the water. I will try to give you an example later on as to how you can use warming-up exercises in a play spirit to get warm. Some who are instructors in swimming pools know it is true that pupils get cold and can't listen to instructions. The value of play is then ruined.

Selecting the Games

How should we select games that are the most joyous to the group? In answer I am going to mention several rules that should be remembered.

1. The rules of the games should be few and simple. Involved rules will ruin a game. The ideal games are where you throw the ball in and have as few rules as possible.

2. That there should be activity for most of the individuals most of the time. Let us not in our games develop "spectatoritis."

3. Remember that we should not require a large amount of equipment. The pool is the natural facility that you have. Have as few other things in addition as possible.

Then, of course, all know the following:

4. Adapt the games to the age of the child and to the sex.

5. Adjust your selection to the immediate interest of the individual. I may change the name of the game just because of an event that has stood out in the newspaper, and swing my interest into that line because of some headline that has appeared in the paper. Be sure that the headline is educative, though, and proper. Some of the newspaper headlines are not very educative.

6. In high schools there is usually a corrective program. Remember, you have a wonderful opportunity in water therapy to use the swimming pool for specific groups—that is, corrective groups.

7. Don't set up a game that is going to give the possibility for a poor swimmer to lose confidence and thereby develop an initial fear of the water.

8. Finally, select games which in the main have the opportunity of being recorded and able to show individual progress; call them achievement charts if you wish; call them what you will, but something that gives a picture of individual improvement.

I want you to appreciate that I am not offering water games as a panacea for teaching swimming. Yet I do say that too much of our instruction is so formalized that it has no appeal. Every period should include at least five to eight minutes of games and this part of the period should never be eliminated. Sometimes you and I learn to swim by playing games, many of us learned in the swimming hole, while some of us have tried to be taught in swimming pools under formalized instruction for years and never been able to learn.

The best instruction, I believe, is the squad system where you develop a

system of helpers. The squad size should be anywhere from four to twelve, but I would suggest keeping it around eight.

Hints on Teaching

When we have our classes and squads arranged, how are we going to teach the game? I first want you to consider that natural activities are the hardest to teach. The reason generally is that we haven't thought through the difficulties that lie ahead. May I suggest these steps that perhaps will overcome some of them. First, name your games, and have that name short and catchy. Use a little ingenuity. Second, give a short explanation of the game. Make it short but explain the rules clearly. Third, give a short explanation of the formation the players are to take in the pool. Fourth, have them ask questions. Fifth, answer the questions, if there are any, on the formation, or the rules of the game before they go into the water. Sixth, tell them to take the described formations that you have given them. Seventh, ask if there are any more questions. With regard to question, may I also suggest to you that you say, "Hands, please," because everyone is at first unsociable in the game situation and in this way you make them conscious of the group.

Games for Beginners

Everyone should learn to swim not only as a safety measure but for the joy it gives!

May I suggest the following games for the beginners and give



reasons for their values. The first is the *Turtle Float*. Most teachers are familiar with this activity. The knees are brought to the chest, the chin on the chest, and the breath is held for a certain length of time. This is valuable in giving the individual a sensation of being able to float in the water. The second is the *Face-Submerged Float* which can be used either for time or distance. Then we have the *Steamboat* which is the method of pushing off in a Face-Submerged Float position. The hands are in line with the ears, and the legs are kicked up and down with the flutter kick. We use the *Log Rolling* to give them a sensation of changing position in the water. I am sure that most individuals are conscious of the fact that the beginner in the water cannot usually remain calm when he changes from one side to the other. A suggestion for this is the specific idea of rolling over and over, hands over the head, for two or three times. Competition in this comes between squads—each one who does it twice scores a point for his team or squad. Of course, advanced swimmers can do a variation of log rolling using the arms, turning continually and progressing forward first with the crawl and then with the backstroke.

Then there are the group activities such as *Circle Bobbing*; holding hands in a circle and ducking underneath the water. *Poison* as it is played in the gymnasium can be played in the swimming pool. The *Centipede Race* with individuals lining up, one in front of the other, with the hands around the waist of the man in front, and using the lock-step across the pool. This gives a feeling of balance in the water. Most teachers are familiar with *Cat Fight*, but some call it *Horse and Rider*. One person sits on another's shoulders, the top man trying to force the other rider off. The *Bobbing Relay* is another game. *Scramble* is a game similar to water polo, but it is played in the shallow end of the pool. Then there is the *Wheelbarrow Race* which gives you an opportunity of supporting an individual and as well to teach him several of the elementary strokes.

Games for Fair Swimmers

The second group of games is for fair or advanced swimmers. One objective is to improve

"The art of swimming is increasing very rapidly, and human beings are attaining a great mastery over the comparatively unfamiliar element of water. But for the great majority of those who need to swim more, let us not neglect to keep swimming a great game, full of fun and color and glamorous experience. Let us have pageants and plays with a purpose, if possible, or maybe plays just to entertain, but let us have them and be in them or watch them, according to our inclination." *Wilbert E. Longfellow, in Water Pageants, by Olive McCormick, A. S. Barnes and Co.*

form and water confidence. A good individual activity is jumping into the water and doing a front somersault. Of course, you are familiar with the porpoise dive—jack-knifing to the bottom and pushing up to the surface and leveling off for another dive. Double or triple swimming is very good and can be used with the breast stroke, back stroke or the crawl. It is very

helpful in developing swimming strokes, especially the leg stroke. Follow the leader is another game which is interesting. First, dive in; second, reverse crawl; third, the dog paddle; fourth, the dog paddle with the flutter kick; and finally, sinking and leveling off. One team may compete against the other for speed or form, in a restricted area.

Group Activities

Start off in shallow water and tread water with hands on the next individual's shoulders the length of the pool. There should be four men in the group, with their hands on each other's shoulders and just a leg kick is used. We have also the game that is played with one individual in the middle of a circle and the other individuals holding hands in the form of a circle and trying to force one of their number to touch the swimmer who is treading water in the middle. There is also the arch relay, which is swimming underneath each other's legs while the person standing must scull with the hands while keeping the legs wide apart. In shallow water, of course, they can stand on the bottom. Water Kick Ball as a team game is most interesting and can be used in schools very well. It is similar to baseball except that the ball is kicked instead of batted.

The instructor's attitude in presenting a game, and his manner of voice and action during the game, are strong influences on the way the players will take to it.

NOTE: From the National Recreation Association may be secured a bulletin entitled "Water Play Days," which contains directions for a number of games to be played in the water, some interesting relays and races, and a variety of amusing stunts and novelty features. A brief bibliography of water sports is given.

Plays and Pageants for the Playground

By HELEN BOARD

Former Staff Member,
Public Recreation Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio



A grassy plot on the playground will supply a delightful setting for a children's play.

WITH THE playground season "just around the corner," play leaders are planning their activities for this brief but intensive period.

The majority of leaders will include in their program at least one play or pageant. Because of the brevity of the playground season, the limited facilities for play production and the irregular attendance upon the playground, the choice of a play must necessarily be carefully considered. Obviously it should be simple enough to eliminate the necessity for long rehearsals, expensive costumes and elaborate stage settings, yet at the same time it must have sufficient merit to be worthy of production.

In choosing a play for the playground several requisites have to be taken into account in addition to the value of the play. Among these are the social and educational background of the children in the cast; the length of time allotted for preparation; the stage setting and properties available, and the audience for which the play is to be given. With these essential points in mind, the director is ready to give her attention to the vast treasury of materials from which the selection may be made. And since the array is so great, she may be somewhat bewildered as to where and how to obtain the best material. It is the purpose

of this article, therefore, to assist the play leader or director in overcoming this obstacle by presenting a selective list of plays which have been "weighed in the balance and not found wanting."

Frequently the only "stage" available is the natural setting of the playground—a grassy plot or a shady knoll with a background of trees or shrubbery. So let us consider first the plays best suited to this condition.

A Few Proven Plays

Marjorie's Garden, a delightful little flower play, may be found in *Five Plays and Five Pantomimes* by Sidney Baldwin, published by the Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia. Most of the characters are flowers and the costumes made from colored crepe paper are lovely. In this same volume may be found *The Enchanted Gate*, a story of romance and intrigue which will delight boys as well as girls.

Flowers in the Palace Garden, another flower play of beauty and charm, appears in Virginia Olcott's volume, *Everyday Plays for Home, School and Settlement*, published by Dodd, Mead

& Company. This volume also contains *The Ruler of the Forest*, an exciting adventure of Indian life and *The Troll of the Mountains*, which tells the story of a thrilling capture and rescue. The two last named have a special appeal for boys.

Constance D'Arcy Mackay is the author of a charming garden play called *The Enchanted Garden*, published by Samuel French, New York, (\$.30), which can be highly recommended. In the cast are three boys, seven girls and extras.

The Fairy Woods by Irene Jean Crandall, is a fanciful fairy play in a prologue and two acts which can be heartily endorsed. Replete with dances and bright costumes, it makes an ideal woodland entertainment or end of the season pageant. If this is too elaborate try *The Kingdom of the Rose Queen* by John Farrar, in which Queen Wild Rose makes a boy realize his past unkindness to the wild flowers. There is only one scene with a cast of thirty-five or forty children. (It may be found in libraries.)

And before we leave the subject of flower plays, let us not fail to mention *Prince Goldenrod* in *Little Robin Stay-Behind* by Katherine Lee Bates, published by the Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York. This humorous little piece calls for nine principal characters—three girls and six boys—with any number of singers, dancers and courtiers. The scene is laid in the throne room of Prince Goldenrod where an entertaining family quarrel eventually has a very amiable ending.

For a large cast of older boys and girls nothing is more appropriate than *The Treasure Chest* by Josephine Thorp. Old Tower Publishing Company, Lockport, Illinois. It requires only a woodland setting and the cast is flexible so that any number may participate. The thrilling conflict of a band of pirates makes the play lively and entertaining for boys, and girls adore the rhythmic dances of the waves and sunbeams.

The Dearest Wish, a story-telling festival by Pauline Oak, is also excellent for a large cast. It may be secured from the Drama Service, National

Recreation Association. Practical as well as poetic are the brief plays found in Rose Fyleman's volume, *Eight Little Plays*, published by Doubleday, Doran & Company, New York. *The Fairy Riddle* and *The Fairy and the Doll* are especially well adapted for playground use. *Noughts and Crosses*, which, by the way, is one of the most novel plays in the volume, calls for an indoor setting but can be adapted for outdoor presentation.

When Pantomime Is Used

If it so happens that a playground is located in the heart of the city where the noise of traffic makes line reading impossible, the pantomime will prove an excellent substitute for the spoken word. Nora Archibald Smith has included four delightful ones in her volume *Plays, Pantomimes and Tableaux*, published by Dodd, Mead & Company, New York—*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *Red Riding Hood*, *The Elves and the Shoemaker*, and *Snow White and Rose Red*. Complete directions for costuming and producing accompany the pantomimes.

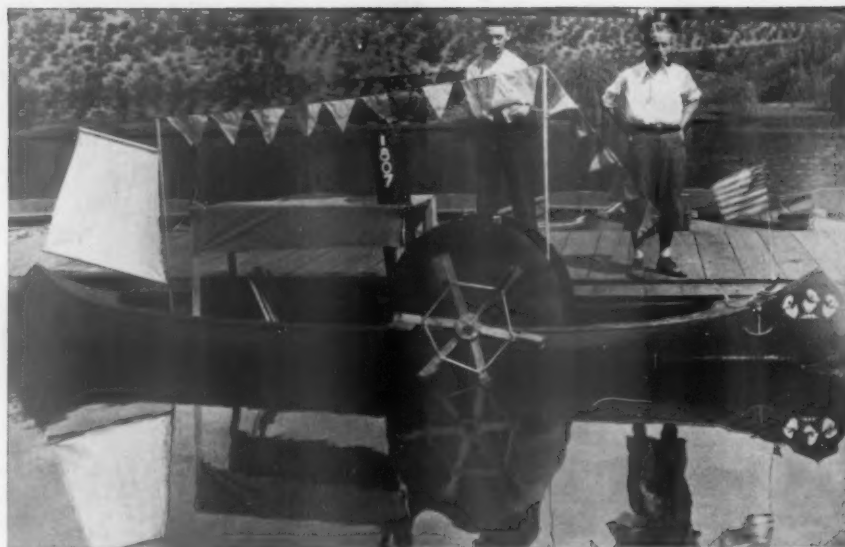
The Gnomes Workshop by M. A. Jagendorf, published by Brentano's, New York, is an ideal pantomime for children between the ages of eight and twelve. The scene is indoors, but can easily

(Continued on page 202)

"King Alfred and the Cakes" was the charming play given by the children of Salisbury, Conn.



Canoeing and Tennis in a County Park System



WHILE IT IS definitely within the province of economists and financiers to evolve ways and means for curing the depression, it is just as definitely within the province of those engaged in recreation to evolve ways and means of providing healthful substitutes for those recreations which many persons miss because of changed financial status. It was with this in mind that the Recreation Division of the Essex County, New Jersey, Park Commission determined to attempt to revive an interest in canoeing and to broaden an already wide interest in tennis as played on clay courts.

Twenty years ago two of the parks under our control boasted of flourishing canoe clubs, each having its regatta and drawing large crowds; but with the growing lure of the automobile the number of canoeists was gradually reduced until instead of having one hundred and fifty canoes on each lake there were fewer than seventy-five at Weequahic and less than twenty-five at Branch Brook.

Until three years ago the boating and refectory facilities at the lakes were not under the control of the Commission but were leased to concessionaires. However, with the taking over of these leases on their expiration, the facilities offered by the lakes became one of the phases of the work assigned to the Recreation Division for development. Meantime Verona Lake had been taken over and the entire tract re-landscaped, so that there were three park lakes instead of two, where canoes might be used.

By **ERNEST BENATRE**
Supervisor of Recreation
Essex County Park Commission

Canoeing Grows in Popularity

Starting the campaign for more canoeing was not difficult. It involved inviting to an evening meeting in the offices of the Commission canoeists from each lake who came different nights. The result was that canoe clubs were formed at the meetings, temporary officers—one a girl in two of the three groups—being elected and plans were discussed for regattas and carnivals. It was pointed out that permits for the events would be needed, that definite practice nights should be chosen, and that no one might compete or practice who could not satisfy the Police Department of his or her ability to swim. Setting a definite date for the swimming events, at which the Chief of the Park Police Department was present, gave the regattas such an impetus as perhaps nothing else would have done.

Membership in the three clubs increased immediately when we suggested that no one might compete unless a member in good standing of the club. Other boats were brought to the lakes with the result that the popularity of canoeing was well on the way to a revival, if one might judge by the volume of inquiries regarding canoes for sale.

In order to open competition in the regattas to as many as possible, two things were suggested to

the clubs—that three events for row boats be included and that any novice resident in Essex County be permitted to compete.

There was more work involved for the Recreation Division than appears, for no member of any of the clubs had had any experience with athletic or aquatic contests, with the result that all of the planning, the clerical work of handling entries, the laying out of the course, the setting of the buoys for starts and finish lines and the actual officiating had to be taken care of. Our own staff was able to handle the regattas, for the playground instruction corps boasted some college oarsmen and officials of experience; the engineering staff laid out the course on each lake, and the carpenters and painters of the maintenance division saved considerable money by making buoys for the start and finish lines.

The buoys marking the finish line consisted of two pieces of wood one inch thick and ten inches square with a piece of cork from an old life preserver between. They were painted bright red and a hole was drilled in each for an American flag. Buoys six inches square and painted white with black numbers were used to mark the starting lines. To hold them in place we used a screw eye in the bottom of each from which was suspended a rope with a sash weight anchor borrowed from the fishing boats at each lake. We also discovered that a light and very satisfactory tilting pole could be made from a bamboo pole, a plumber's rubber plunger, a child's rubber gas ball, a little burlap and a piece of chamois.

The Weequahic Canoe Club varied its regatta features with an exhibition of life saving by a team from the Orange Y. M. C. A., the dock at that lake lending itself admirably for such activity from the viewpoint of the spectators. The other two clubs held carnivals in addition to the regattas. Here a good deal of ingenuity was displayed in the decorating of the canoes.

At Branch Brook first place went to a young man who, with the aid of some cardboard and a few water colors, transformed his canoe into a very creditable likeness of a gondola and arrayed himself as a gondolier. At Verona the judges were somewhat put to it to decide between three of the canoes but finally awarded first, second and third respectively to those representing a side wheeler the covered wagon, and the "Fresh Air Taxicab."

The boys at Branch Brook had such a good time that they asked if they might hold a trian-

gular regatta, inviting the other two clubs to compete with them in September, and they requested the assistance of the Recreation Division. This competition was won by the Verona Club which now has the first leg on a silver loving cup presented by the Commission. During the winter each club plans to enlist the interest of many prospective canoeists, and while we all hope that the depression will be well behind us by next summer, we also hope that so healthful and inexpensive a sport as canoeing may continue to thrive.

Developing Interest in Tennis

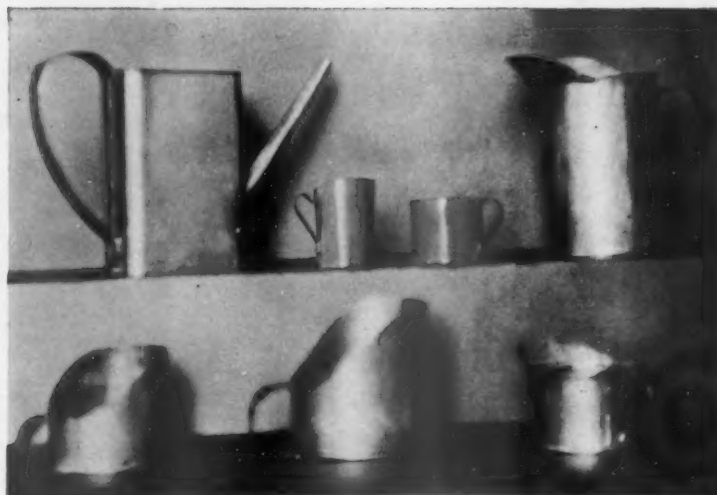
Tennis tournaments received their impetus from two sources. The Secretary had delegated one of the members of the Recreation Division to represent the Commission, and incidentally Essex County, on the Public Parks Committee of the Eastern Lawn Tennis Association which was desirous of having a good representation from New Jersey in the Metropolitan Championships. Furthermore, after three years' experience our clay courts players were getting to the point where competition between parks would be desirable, and with the five day week forced on many residents of the county we felt that tennis offered a very inexpensive way of using free time, the charge for courts being only 10 cents per hour per player.

Groups from each of the five parks where clay courts are maintained were invited separately to meet with a staff member of the Recreation Division. The result was that tennis clubs were formed at each park and tournaments conducted by the members during July for the purpose of selecting a team of seven players—two men's singles, one women's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles. It was planned that these teams would engage in match play during August. Before the local tournaments were well under way, however, the Kresge Department Store of Newark asked permission to sponsor the August matches to the extent of furnishing the balls and providing seven trophies for the winners. So enthusiastic did the store officials become that they asked permission to hold a county-wide tournament in September not limited to public parks players for which they furnished seven more trophies. As an added feature for the finals on September 24th they arranged for an exhibition match between Vincent Richards and Gregory Mangin.

(Continued on page 202)

Tin Can Craft on the Playground

By CHARLES M. GRAVES
Birmingham, Alabama



Here, in illustration No. 1, are to be seen some of the articles with which the novice may begin.

THE HANDCRAFT program on the playground is often difficult because of the expense of securing suitable material. There was a time when wooden packing boxes were easily obtainable, but today only a small part of the goods received in the neighborhood grocery comes in wooden containers, and they are hard to get. Tin cans are plentiful and cost nothing. They may be used for many useful articles for the home, playground and camp. There is a satisfaction to the craftsman in the fact that he is using material that is usually thrown away—making something out of nothing.

It is very important that fresh, clean cans be used. They should be washed soon after they are opened and put in such a position to drain that all the water will run out. Old, dirty, rusty cans should not be used.

There should be a receptacle convenient for all scrap tin. This should not be left lying around. All jagged edges on any of the articles should be immediately removed by the use of a file. After one becomes accustomed to handling tin there will be few accidents, but any cuts should be treated immediately.

The Tools

Tools should include a pair of 8 inch duck bill tin snips. With these snips a reasonably good curve, either right or left, can be secured. This cannot be done with the ordinary tin snips which are used for

Mr. Graves first became interested in tin can craft two years ago when he served as a play leader on the playgrounds conducted by the Park and Recreation Board of Birmingham, Alabama. As a student at the National Recreation School last year he had the opportunity of developing the craft still further in connection with the work he did at the Flatbush Boys' Club in Brooklyn.

cutting straight lines. A 12 inch pair of these should, however, be in the kit. Other tools necessary are a can opener which leaves a smooth top, a spool of rosin or core solder, or if desired, solder wire and soldering paste, a pair of pliers, a pair of dividers, a rule, a small ball pene hammer, a small wooden mallet, a small file, and a punch made from a nail. A block of hard wood, planed smooth about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by 2" by 12", is a necessity. It is also important to have an alcohol lamp which may be made from an ink bottle with a wick pulled through a hole in the cork. It is a good idea to use the barrel of a .32 cartridge to line the hole.

A small variety of quick drying paints, such as four hour enamel, a brush or two, a little patience and the application of a few simple decorative designs, will work wonders with your finished articles.

The Procedure

A tin cup is one of the simplest projects. (See illustration No. 1.) Select a can of the size desired. A small pineapple can makes a good size. The top edge must be smooth. Cut from another can a strip of tin sufficient for the handle. For a can the size mentioned this would be about $1\frac{1}{4}$ " by 5". To hem the

edges of the handle, hold this strip on the block of hard wood so that $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch of one of the long edges extends over the edge of the block. With a mallet or hammer bend this $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch strip down so as to make a double smooth edge or hem. Repeat this operation on the other edge and you have a strip with smooth edges five inches long with which to make the handle.

Using your fingers and the hammer handle, shape this strip into a handle. It will look something like a question mark. The top and bottom ends of the handle should now be so shaped as to fit snugly against the outside of the cup over the seam. The handle can be temporarily held in place by a small wire or string around the handle and cup.

If you have a soldering iron convenient and know how to use it, the rest is simple. But if not, the soldering operation may be done in the following way, which is the simplest for the amateur. Cut two pieces of self-fluxing solder about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long (rosin core or acid core solder). Flatten the pieces of solder with a hammer and place one between the top end of the handle and the can. Now apply heat from an alcohol lamp so that the flame does not touch the solder and as soon as the solder flows remove the heat. If the softest solder is used, a candle, or even a match, will give sufficient heat. If you do not succeed the first time, clean all contact surfaces and try again. Now remove the string or wire and you have a very acceptable tin cup.

This method of soldering is used in the making of all the objects and is similar to the method used by silversmiths.

Kitchen Utensils

By using a larger can and making a lip on the edge opposite the handle, a utility kitchen cup can be made. This lip, when cut out, resembles a new moon. (See illustration No. 1.)

A very acceptable and useful scoop can be made by cutting away one side of the can. It is preferable to cut away the side which is seamed, soldering a handle on the bottom or low side. A scoop for sugar or flour is best made from a can with a smooth bottom, such as a milk can.

A biscuit or cookie cutter can be made any desired shape by cutting a long strip of tin one inch wide and shaping it as desired, soldering the ends together and putting a handle across the top. A better cutter can be made by hemming the top edge.

A toy bucket can be made by soldering half a

gem clip, bent to resemble a hat in profile, on the sides of a No. $2\frac{1}{2}$ can and shaping a handle to fit these loops. Make the handle of coat hanger wire. A shovel to go with this bucket can easily be made by shaping it from a piece of tin $2\frac{1}{2}$ " by 8".

A toy saucepan can be made by shaping a straight handle, in the same way as the handle to the cup already described, and soldering it to the side of a potted ham can or other small can. A broiler can be made from two sardine cans with wire handles soldered on each end, so that the handles of the top fit inside the handles of the bottom can.

A round table may be made by soldering a 2 inch tape reel to the under side of a coffee can top. The chair is made of a flat piece in the same way as one is cut out of cardboard.

To make a toy wash-board, cut a piece of tin 4" wide by 12" long. Lay this flat on the table and hold the block of wood firmly across it 2 inches from one end. Bend the tin up against it so that it makes a right angle to the balance of the piece. Turn the tin over and about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from this bend on the long part of the tin, make another in the opposite direction. Now turn the tin over again and with the block holding it down, about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch, from the last bend make

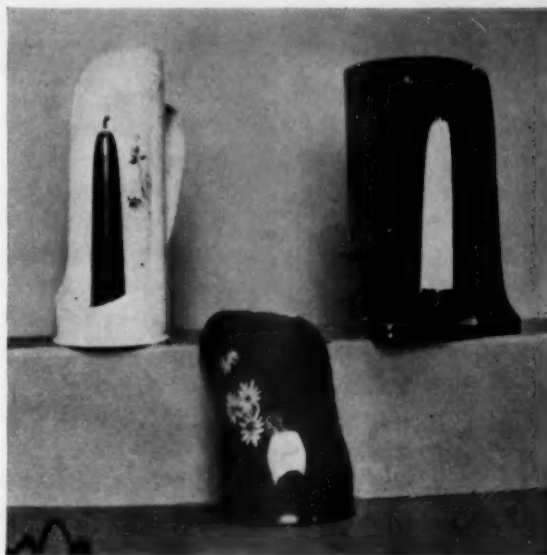


Illustration No. 2 is a happy demonstration of the attractiveness of the candle holders which can be evolved from useless tin cans.

In illustration No. 3 are shown some of the novel and useful articles so easily made.

another and so on reversing the tin each time before making a bend. With a little care you will have a very acceptable corrugated base for a wash-board. Then round the top corners. Now cut a strip of tin $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide and long enough to go along two sides and the top. Shape this to fit the sides of the board, tie this strip to the board, wire or string, and solder in several spots.

More Decorative Articles

A candle holder can be made by cutting away one side of a can and soldering a handle on the back of the high side and a tin cylinder in the bottom to hold the candle. (See illustration No. 2.) Another type of candlestick can be made from the top of a coffee can with a discarded Handy tape reel or made up cylinder of tin to hold the candle. (See illustration No. 3.) A kitchen or camp candle holder may be evolved from a cocoa can or other oblong can that will hang against the wall.

An easel to hold photographs or pictures may be made by cutting in a single piece an isosceles triangle of $4\frac{1}{2}$ " sides with a rectangular base $6\frac{1}{2}$ " long and 1" high. Bend this piece along the perpendicular of the triangle to an angle of about 60 degrees. The two pieces which project from each side of the base form the offsets which hold the picture. A miniature easel makes an attractive place card holder.

An ash tray and match box holder can be made from the top of a coffee can as shown in illustration No. 3. The memo card or calendar holder shown here is made to fit a 3" by 5"



card and requires a piece of material $7\frac{1}{2}$ " by $5\frac{1}{8}$ ". A little study of the picture will show how it is made. It should be made about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep with a hole at the top to hang it on the wall. It requires no soldering.

The sunflower, the club and the spade shown in the final illustration may be used as place card holders

and also as miniature candle holders. In the center of each is a small cylinder about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high, just the right diameter to hold a small birthday candle. This is made from a strip of tin $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch long by $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch wide rolled into a cylinder and soldered to the base. Many variations may be worked out.

A desk blotter may be made by cutting a piece of tin $3\frac{1}{4}$ " by 5" for the top, and $2\frac{7}{8}$ " by $5\frac{1}{4}$ " for the bottom. The top piece should have its long edges folded back, as is done with the handle of the cup. The ends should have $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch bent to make an angle of about 60 degrees with the body of the top, and the top itself should be slightly arched. A blotter should be cut the same size as the bottom piece which should be shaped to an even curve and fitted under the ends of the top piece.

Decorating Articles

A very effective way of decorating a tin article such as a blotter pad or desk blotter corners is to cut from thin copper an initial, a monogram or other design, and solder this to the object. After the design has been satisfactorily cut out with snips or coping saw and file, sandpaper the side

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Effective holders for place cards and miniature candle holders as well are possibilities.

How to Produce a Play

By JACK STUART KNAPP

National Recreation Association

The casting of a play is an art requiring great diplomacy on the part of directors.

In this article the important subject of casting a play is considered, and suggestions are offered regarding the qualifications which the prospective actor should have and the best methods to use in giving the applicant a chance to show his ability.

An article by Mr. Knapp on *Organizing the Production* will follow next month.

EXPERTNESS in casting is an invaluable asset to the director. Some directors seem to have an instinct for casting, others always have difficulty. The amateur director must not only understand thoroughly the characterizations in the play and the talent on hand. He must be a diplomat as well. Mistakes in casting or, worse, unfair casting, will often arouse a storm of resentment and criticism. In some groups even absolutely fair casting will arouse criticism at first, but if the director is always fair, this criticism quickly dies.

Directors of some groups, childrens especially, have another problem. Should the audience see a good characterization by an actor equipped to handle the part, or are the benefits received by an actor in playing a part which he is not naturally equipped to play, but which will help him in the development of his own personality or character, of more importance? Which is to be given more consideration, the audience or the actor? With children's groups, and specialized adult groups, it should often be the latter.

The too quiet, timid, mouse-like little girl by being cast in a lively, laughing, jolly part, may develop a little of the vivaciousness she needs in every day life, and the boisterous, rough, unmannerly little boy may acquire some of the graces and knowledge of courtesy he needs by playing the part of the gentle prince. In the usual adult production, however, the audience must be considered, and parts are usually given to those who, in the opinion of the director or casting committee, are best fitted to play them.

The casting is done by the director or by a small committee, of which the director is a member, and the determining factor in selecting the cast.

The "try out" method is the usual and perhaps the best method of casting. The try out conducted by some groups, however, means very little. Applicants are handed a book they've never seen before and are told "stand there and read this." Now it is sad but true that about ninety-five people out of one hundred can not read out loud. Even for those who can read, it is extremely difficult to put expression or characterization into something they have never read before. When the try out is finished, about all the director usually knows is that the people who have tried out want to be in the play, and that some people read better than others. This does not mean at all that they can act any better than the ones who read poorly.

If a try out is to mean something, the applicants should be given a few speeches of the play to memorize a few days before the try out date. The selections to be memorized can be mimeographed, or printed in the local newspaper, if it has an obliging editor. Poor readers may be excellent actors after they have memorized their lines.

As a precaution against mistakes, the director should announce that the first casting of the play is merely temporary. Actors may be requested to exchange parts, or even to drop out of the cast, if they find that they are not equipped to handle the part with credit to themselves and the production. After one or two rehearsals the permanent cast should be announced.

While each actor is trying out, the director, or casting committee, is considering certain qualities and qualifications. The first of these is not acting

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Courtesy U. S. Forest Service

Photo by Leslie R. Corbett

National Forest Playgrounds of the Pacific Northwest

A glimpse of the joys which
await those fortunate enough
to visit the great Northwest

By MARIE F. HEISLEY

Forest Service

United States Department of Agriculture

THE VAST forests of Douglas fir, spruce, hemlock, pine, cedar, and other conifers that extend almost unbroken over the mountain ranges of the Pacific Northwest offer outstanding opportunities for outdoor recreation. Fortunately, Uncle Sam has created in this region some of the very finest of his National Forests.

The National Forests of the Pacific Northwest, like all others, were created for the conservation

and development of the forest values in the public interest. Of vital concern, of course, is the growing of timber and the protection of watersheds. This the forests do to a remarkable degree, for they contain some of the most magnificent stands of softwood timber in the world and their forest-covered mountains protect the headwaters of many streams vital to the welfare of the region. But recreational opportunity is also recognized as a forest resource of outstanding value, and recreation is given an important place in the administrative program of the National Forests.

The Pacific Northwest's National Forests are among the Nation's finest recreation grounds. They have a wealth of splendid scenery. Their

woods, rivers, lakes, alpine meadows, snow fields, and lofty peaks hold invitations to all lovers of the great outdoors. Fish in the streams and lakes and big game in the back country lure the fisherman and hunter. Snow-clad peaks and glaciers at the top of the divides challenge the hardest mountain climber or winter sports enthusiast. The tourist, the camper, the hiker, and nature lover will find his heart's delight in these vacation lands.

Recreation, therefore, forms one of the major uses of the nineteen National Forests of Washington and Oregon. These Forests are visited by thousands of pleasure seekers every year. To the extent that available funds permit, the United States Forest Service each year improves recreational facilities. The mileage of roads and trails is increased, opening up new areas to the traveler. Improvements are made upon camp grounds and other recreation areas.

The Forest Service has already established 876 free public camp grounds on the National Forests of the Pacific Northwest. These camp grounds are gradually being provided with the facilities necessary to their proper management and also with conveniences for the camper or picnicker, such as stoves and fireplaces, toilets and garbage pits, and information booths. It is estimated that during the summer season these national forest public camp grounds are used daily by more than 51,000 persons. Establishment of private camps, hotels, resorts and summer homes is also allowed in certain designated areas within the National Forests, under special permit from the Forest Service.

Primitive Areas

For the furtherance of public education and recreation the Forest Service is establishing within National Forests a series of representative areas known as Primitive Areas. In these areas primitive conditions of environment, transportation, habitation and subsistence are as far as possible maintained. No occupancy under permit

for summer home, resort, camp, or the like, is allowed, and no improvements other than those necessary to the adequate protection of the area from fire will be made. Thus is being preserved for the Nation representative areas of wild country in the natural state, free from exploitation and unmodified by the works of man. True lovers of the wilderness can find in the Primitive Areas the opportunity to "rough it" in primitive fashion, and to enjoy nature unspoiled. The areas are open to recreationists, but only those who love living in the out-of-doors and have the hardihood to subsist under primitive conditions should attempt to explore them. Over fifty Primitive Areas have been established on National Forests, with seven in the Pacific Northwest.

Recreation Areas

Since most of the mountainous section of Washington and Oregon are included within National Forests, many of the outstanding recreation areas of the region are publicly owned. The Forest Service, therefore, has designated a number of recreation areas within the National Forests, where recreation is the primary concern in administration. One of the most popular of these is the "Heather Meadows Recreation Area," in the Mt. Baker National Forest, Washington. Here, in a setting of unexcelled scenery in the shadow of snow-crowned Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan, the famous Mt. Baker Lodge is maintained under a special use permit. A free public campground also is maintained, and a forest ranger stationed at the area is ready to give information and advice to recreationists. During the summer season he delivers nightly illustrated lectures on the flora and fauna of the area.

Another section of exceptional interest from a recreational standpoint is the Olympic Peninsula in northwestern Washington. This is a region of heavy precipitation and remarkable forest growth. The peninsula contains an extensive alpine area in the Olympic Mountain



In Primitive Areas of the National Forests old arts are practised.

Range, a splendid mountain mass with impressive peaks rising to an elevation of 8,250 feet, deep gorges, extensive snow fields and numerous glaciers, and other features characteristic of the best mountain scenery of the West. It is one of the last great wilderness areas in the United States. Practically all of the Olympic Mountain Range is included within the boundaries of the Olympic National Forest which covers almost one and a half million acres. From the heart of the Forest rises Mt. Olympus, the highest point of the Range. This peak and adjacent summits have been set aside as the Mt. Olympus National Monument because they contain certain features of unusual scientific interest, and because the region has from time immemorial formed the breeding grounds and summer range of the rare Olympic, or Roosevelt, elk, a native species found nowhere else. The National Monument covers approximately 330,000 acres and includes the highest and roughest snow-capped peaks, while an adjoining portion of the Forest has been set aside as a recreation area, for which public recreation is considered the highest use. A Primitive Area also has been designated in this region.

Oregon Caves, in the Siskiyou National Forest in Southern Oregon, have been set aside as a National Monument. The Caves are located in Cave Mountain, a peak of limestone foundation, 6,000 feet high, with their main entrances at 4,000 feet. Many miles of galleries, rooms, and passageways, which lead in all directions, have already been explored, and there are probably many more miles in the unexplored portions of the mountain. The Forest Service regulates the use and protection of the caves and has permitted the building of an attractive chalet at their entrance. A public campground also is maintained. Improvements for the accommodation of visitors are being made each year.

Many mountain peaks within the National Forests of Washington and Oregon attract the recreationist. Best known, perhaps, is Mt. Hood. This snow-crowned king of the Columbia River country in Oregon is located on the National Forest to which it gives its name. The mountain and some 100,000 acres of surrounding territory in the Forest, including that portion adjacent to the Columbia River, have been designated by the Forest Service as a recreation area, for the "use and enjoyment of the general public for recreational purposes coordinately with the purpose for which the Mt. Hood National Forest was established."

Although the region is the mecca for all classes of recreationists, it is especially popular with mountain climbers. Mt. Hood is climbed annually by a great many people, mountain climbing clubs frequently making the ascent with parties numbering a hundred or more. The ascent from the north side of the mountain will appeal to most lovers of mountain climbing, for, while no exceptional difficulties will be met, the climb is not an easy one. The south side climb is more gradual. Inexperienced persons, however, should not attempt an ascent of either side of Mt. Hood without a guide. In winter the climb is extremely hazardous and should be tried only by experienced mountain climbers and then only with guides. The Mount Hood region is beginning to be used extensively for all kinds of winter sports.

The National Forests of the Pacific Northwest are studded with numerous lakes, most of which are beautifully situated and attractive to recreationists. One of the most popular is Lake Chelan, in the Chelan National Forest, Washington, one of the most beautiful mountain regions in the United States. The lake extends for 50 miles through the heart of the east slope of the Cascade Range and is fed by numerous streams which descend to it through deep canyons and fall in numerous cascades. The Lake Chelan region is also joy to the mountain climber, including as it does many glaciers, rugged peaks that have seldom, if ever, been scaled, mountain meadows, gorges, cataracts, and small lakes nested among the peaks. It is also popular with other classes of pleasure seekers, for the fishing is excellent, there are accommodations for persons who do not wish to "camp out," and many sandy beaches. During the summer season numbers of small boats and yachts dot Lake Chelan. The whole Chelan Forest offers splendid opportunities for hunting, fishing, and camping, and other forms of outdoor recreation.

Some Forestry Activities for Recreation Centers

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers. Why not have a "Jim and Jerry" party if you have a radio at your center? As you probably know, Forest Rangers Jim Robbins and Jerry Quick are the principal characters in the series of educational broadcasts entitled, "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers," now being heard weekly over NBC networks. The broadcasts are prepared by Charles E. Randall of the

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Popularizing the Swimming Badge Tests

Why not have some such demonstration as this in your summer program?



The swimming badge tests will prove a popular addition to the summer camp program.

THE SWIMMING BADGE TESTS developed for the National Recreation Association by a group of distinguished physical educators, swimming experts and recreation leaders, have been so well received it is clear that given adequate publicity they will be extremely useful in stimulating interest in swimming and other aquatic skills.

As a means of drawing attention to the tests it has been suggested that early in the swimming season this year special events could be held at swimming pools or beaches for the purpose of having well known swimmers give a demonstration of the tests. Probably such swimmers will prefer to demonstrate the third and most difficult test. In this case unusually qualified boy or girl swimmers could demonstrate the first and second tests. A feature of the event might well be the presentation of emblems and certificates by the mayor or some other public official.

The Swimming Badge Test Committee does not permit emblems to be issued until the person conducting the tests has certified those who have qualified for badges. Wherever possible, however, the Committee will be glad to arrange for a representative to be present at special demonstrations of the tests, in order that the emblems may be awarded as a part of the program. Participation on such occasions should be limited to a few selected swimmers of exceptional ability.

It is recommended that such a demonstration be held early in the season in order to reap the

full advantage of stimulating attendance at the swimming pools and progress in the sport. An expert swimmer could easily run through the third test in half an hour. Possibly the three tests could be run off simultaneously, alternating the events in the different tests.

Scope of the Tests

For the benefit of those unfamiliar with the tests, it may be said that they embrace swimming stated distances, recovering objects by surface dives, swimming for time, diving, floating, treading and demonstrating strokes. There are no height, weight or age limits specified. The same tests are used for both boys and girls with the exception that girls are permitted a longer time in swimming events for speed. Any responsible person, familiar with swimming, may give the tests. The National Recreation Association furnishes certificates and emblems which may be sewed on the sweater or swimming suit on receipt of certification by examiners that the tests have been successfully completed. Many thousands of men, women and children have now taken the tests.

Tests Widely Used and Approved

Captain Charles B. Scully, Director of the Life Saving Service for the American Red Cross in Greater New York, says of the tests: "I have

(Continued on page 205)

Hidden Wealth Revealed by Bankers

By AUGUSTUS D. ZANZIG

National Recreation Association

Some delightful revelations about bankers and "captains of industry!"

"Every hour of the human life freed from enforced toil by the machine is a potential treasure for the race. To seize upon these new opportunities and convert them into the creative joys of the mind, body and spirit they might be—what else can we learn that is half so vital to ourselves, to society!"
—Dorothy Canfield Fisher in *The Library Journal*, May 15, 1933

WILL WONDERS never cease? Here we are adjusting ourselves with amazing flexibility to a rapid fire of wonders, of great new national projects and controls, when along come some remarkable and delightful revelations about certain very successful bankers. They are not the practical, hard-headed men we thought bankers were. They are really musicians! Think of it! The cynical might say, "No wonder we have—or have had—a depression!" But these bankers are among the most reputable and successful belonging to the great tradition of American business. The revelation came principally through the National Broadcasting Company's series entitled "Music Is My Hobby," in which a number of these men, some manufacturers, a lawyer, an electrical engineer and men of other professions, each gave a musical performance—some of them in groups—which, though not up to Kreisler, Paderewski or Tibbett, was miles ahead of the general run of commercially sponsored programs that the really hard-headed business men choose.

Of course, many of us have for a long time known this about some bankers, lawyers and prominent people of other professions. It was a very successful young lawyer who said after an all-too-short three hours of string quartet playing, "It's a great pity we can't have more time for these really important things." But when the musical fervor and skill of these men are aired for a few minutes before the millions of listeners-in, we have a first-class revelation and one that should be a strong influence for interesting more people in making music a hobby.

This is not all. The Secretary of the Treasury, chief director over the destiny of our banks and great industries, is also a musician! When a man in his position is given an honorary degree, one would expect it to be an LL.D., but no: Syracuse University, though praising him as a banker and a Secretary of the Treasury, gave him a Mus. D. instead. Mr. Woodin, long a lover and player of music, lately become a distinguished composer, is now a Doctor of Music.

We are very much interested in what Dr. Woodin said on that occasion, as it was reported in the New York *Herald Tribune*. "Did you ever walk by a cemetery at night when a boy?" he asked. "You know you couldn't help whistling to assure yourself everything was all right. Whistling kept your spirits up. Just now music and music study are practical needs of every man. Precisely as the boy whistles instinctively to keep up his courage, so are we all crying for something to bring about confidence and to displace the absurd hysteria of fear which in the last few years has made men and women avoid the great human responsibilities which these dynamic times demand. Vibrations of fine music put a mysterious initiative, resolution and courage into the normal individual."

President Roosevelt had something to say as to this also. "As I was leaving the President's room," reported Dr. Woodin, "he said: 'Will, you can tell them for me that when I get in trouble I always whistle a tune.'"

When one remembers the millions of unemployed and their dependents, and the many other

people who are painfully insecure, these statements are forcible enough. But it is not only because it can inspire courage that music is a practical need or a hobby. Dr. Woodin went straight up the recreation leader's alley when he said: "It has been my experience in business life that after a very strenuous day—beautiful music. The effect can be described only as a kind of psychological bath. I feel cleansed mentally, and my mind is enormously rested." And he might have, and perhaps did, go on to say that above all, music well chosen and used for its own sweet sake, is as rich a means of happiness as exists in the world, and yet it can be and should be within the reach of everyone, no matter how poor he or she may be.

What Recreation Executives Can Do

These revelations of recreational musical interests should be very stimulating. With a few glowing exceptions the men and women in charge of public recreation in our communities have hardly commenced to realize the full human value of the musical resources of people. Many have neglected them entirely. This has usually been because of modesty due to lack of musical skill on the part of the recreation executive; and now the lack may be due also to what seem insufficient funds and staff workers amidst increased demands for service of other kinds. But not enough has been made of the executive's power of suggestion and organization. In many a community he could be more effective than any local musician could be in bringing together representative people who are interested in music and who are capable of planning and carrying out valuable musical developments in the community. If this group, which could be known as the civic music committee, continued to need and desire his vision and sustaining force he might act as its secretary or merely as one of its members. And he could hardly devote to better advantage what little time he would have to give for the purpose. Singing and the provision of concerts can be among the least expensive of all recreational activities, and yet they can enlist large numbers of people. Maintenance of an orchestra, band or smaller instrumental groups, can also be inexpensive if the play-

ers own the instruments and there is music to be loaned, as there is in some places. Recreation executives who are not especially trained in music in Irvington and Bloomfield, New Jersey, in Reading and York, Pennsylvania, in Lansing, Cleveland, Chicago and elsewhere, are proving the force of good recreational leadership even in a field in which they are not at all expert. Incidentally, no other sort of activity can win more sympathetic interest in the community's recreation program as a whole.

The truth is that in every city and town there are people who know that they find great pleasure in singing, playing or listening to music, and a great many others who have not yet realized how rich they are in this respect. For some of the people in these two groups music is, or could readily be, a hobby to be ridden into the happy hills of excellence; and for many others it can be a frequent means of thorough-going recreation even on the plains, so to speak.

We want to suggest one way of giving attractive opportunity to both the hobby riders and the mere strollers in music. It has been tried recently in Buffalo, Scranton and Reading. In each of these three cities there have been free evenings of music that have been at least as inspiring as Dr. Woodin would have music be for everyone these days. The evening is divided between brief performances by trained groups and general singing by the audience, all taking place in a school building, a church or some other center for the neighborhood or community. The special groups may be any of the following:

A church choir or a combination of choirs.

A secular chorus or small vocal group.

Foreign language folk singers, players or dancers—or all three sorts—preferably in native costumes.

A school singing, playing or dancing group.

A community or neighborhood band, orchestra or chamber music group.

A dramatic group.

Songs for General Singing

The general singing should be mainly or entirely of good, lasting songs. The really music-loving and socially competent leader has no need to use any other sort. The following list shows the great

"The organization, training and stimulation of local leadership in the fields of music, of dramatics, of forensics, of arts and crafts, are a matter of the profoundest spiritual and social concern to the commonwealth. More and more people are realizing that the real springs of human happiness are found not in material possessions gained, but in the social and spiritual values enjoyed."—Arnold Bennett Hall in *The Library Journal*, May 15.

variety of feelings, ideas and musical styles existing among such songs:

- Home on the Range.
- *Come to the Fair.
- *Water Boy
- Donkey Riding
- Away for Rio.
- *My Hero
- The Keel Row.
- Old Folks At Home.
- O Susanna.
- Other Stephen Foster Songs.
- *On the Road to Mandalay.
- Funiculi, Funicula (A Merry Life).
- Reuben and Rachel (sung as a round).
- Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes.
- Morning Comes Early.
- Billy Boy.
- Londonderry Air.
- Prayer of Thanksgiving.
- Alouette.
- O Sole Mio (My Sunshine).
- *The Bells of St. Mary's.
- The Keeper.
- Swing Low, Sweet Chariot.
- Annie Laurie.
- Alleluia.
- Little David, Play on Yo' Harp.
- On, Roll On, My Ball I Roll On.
- Juanita.
- Rosa.
- Carry Me Back to Old Virginny.
- Who Did?
- Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms.
- *Roamin' in the Gloamin'.
- Volga Boatmen's Song.
- *When Good Fellows Get Together.
- Dixie
- Were You There?
- Tiritomba.
- Loch Lomond.
- Jacob's Ladder.
- Dogie Song.
- Auld Lang Syne.
- Cape Cod Chantey.
- John Peel.
- O No, John
- All Through the Night.
- Santa Lucia.
- Tit-Willow (from "The Mikado").
- Down in the Valley.
- Are You Sleeping?
- Three Blind Mice.
- Other Rounds.
- A-roving.
- Good-Night, Ladies.
- America, the Beautiful.

It may be objected at once that many of these songs are not generally familiar. But each one has been proved successful and very easily learned by all sorts of groups. The learning of songs as simple and varied as these is itself very enjoyable, and it can keep a group coming again and again to sing. Without some such sort of progress in the singing, most people are soon weary of coming. There is not space here to say where and at what cost the music of each song can be obtained. The words of most of them are in the Community Songs leaflet issued by the National Recrea-

tion Association, and the sources of the music are indicated therein. Preparations are now being made to publish the music of the less familiar songs in a new, inexpensive book.

The singing should appeal as much as possible to the really musical natures of people. The first requisite is wholeheartedness, the play spirit, the generous giving of the whole self to the singing; the songs must therefore appeal to spontaneous interests in the people. There can be no forcing of attention. But every person with any feelings and brains at all has a wider range of interest than is commonly appealed to in community singing. The above list includes songs of the sea, mountain, field and sky, of love, comradeship, reverence, humor, courage, of large-motivated work, hunting, hiking, paddling and dancing, of love of home and country, and all of them full of vitality and enthusiasm. Such is life as we like to live it! The best fun of all is when the singing is, even if only for a moment, beautiful; when the group have together "struck twelve." In no other art or craft can the thrill of beauty be so easily and fully gained, even by unskilled people. The song leader should, of course, be very familiar with each song, and be possessed of other good traits and abilities. An institute in leader training can do wonders.

The special groups that are to perform without charge at these gatherings may be drawn not only from the churches, schools and the community at large, but also from industrial and commercial establishments, clubs, settlements, community centers, evening schools and even from homes. They may be already known to the person or persons charged with securing them, or they may be discovered through a general appeal or a simple kind of survey. A survey could be made primarily in order to publish to the community, through newspapers or bulletin boards, a list of the groups in which new members would be welcome, and information as to where and when each group rehearses and what its entrance requirements are. In the process of this survey each group should be heard, even if only as a courtesy, by someone capable of judging, incidentally, as to whether it performs well enough to appear in one of the "evenings of music."

While these groups are being generous in giving their services, many of them will be much benefited by the incentive of having a good audience. Some groups now only half-hearted might

* Published separately in sheet music.

A Progressive Contest Party

Compiled by **ROBERT K. MURRAY**
National Recreation Association

When funds for game supplies are low, just look around the kitchen and in the family sewing basket!

THIS PARTY is planned for sixty players. There are fifteen games so that four individuals will play together at one time. The equipment for the games is placed around the room or in adjoining rooms in such a way that players can progress in order without difficulty or confusion. Three minutes are allotted for each game, with a one-minute interval between games to allow the players to add up their scores, proceed to the next activity and introduce themselves to the people with whom they are to play. In progressing, two of the players in each group move forward to the game of the next higher number, the other half to the game of the next lower number. For example, two of the people playing the fourth game move to the fifth, the other two to the third. If the entire group should progress in the same direction, each person would play only with the three other people with whom he started. This would certainly not result in the desired sociability. In the system suggested here, each person will play with half the people present by the time all the games have been played. To facilitate the mechanics of progression, score cards may be made of two colors, pink for those going to the games of the next higher number, blue for those who are to proceed always to the game of the next lower number.

The Procedure

As the players arrive, they are given their score cards containing the numbers of the games to be played and a space for the score made in each game. The cards should also have a place for the name of the contestant and the number of the game at which he is

to start. The progression the player is to make, whether up or down, is indicated, of course, by the color. At a signal, each player goes to his first game. Typewritten instructions for each of the games are given on the piece of cardboard placed conspicuously with the equipment for each game. This eliminates the necessity for explaining all the games before the party starts or explaining the games to each group before they begin. A second signal starts the play. The players try to make as many points as possible during the three minutes allotted each game. If necessary, the game is played over and over. At the end of this period, the signal is given and the players add up their scores and progress in the direction indicated on their card. This continues until each of the players present has played all of the games. At the close of the playing period scores are added and a prize awarded to the young man and the young women scoring the highest number of points.

Suggested Activities

The following games may be made from materials found around the house:

Games of Ring Toss

(a) In the bottom of a cardboard carton stick four or five clothespins. From a distance of 10 feet try to ring these clothespins with fruit jar rubbers. Twenty-five points are given for each ringer.

(b) Coil a piece of old rubber hose about 14 inches long into a ring and tape the two ends securely. Turn a chair on its back with legs pointing toward the

At just this time when all of us are seeking the greatest amount of enjoyment with the least possible expenditure of money, the utilization of materials in our homes is a consideration. In the program offered here ideas are suggested for making a number of simple games from materials to be found about the home, and for incorporating them into a progressive contest party which will entertain a large group of people in approximately any type of space.



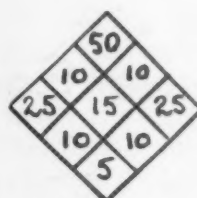
No. 1



No. 2



No. 3



No. 4



No. 5

players. From a distance of 15 feet the players toss the ring over the legs of the chair. Twenty-five points are given for each ringer.

Disk Roll Games

For this game use anything circular except a ball—lids of pans, round hot pads used on the table for hot dishes, or caster cups in which the legs of tables are set. The object of the game is to roll these disks into a box which has been slotted to allow the passage of the rolling disks. If hot plate pads or pan covers are used, the rolling line should be 6 feet from the box. Caster cups being bevelled will not roll straight, and for this reason should be rolled from a distance of not more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 feet. Players must roll, not throw the disks into the box.

Ball Bouncing Games

While most people can toss an article into a receptacle, to bounce it in is an entirely different matter. Several different types of balls and receptacles may be used in this activity.

(a) A child's rubber ball may be bounced from a distance of 4 feet into a waste basket placed on a chair.

(b) Three small jack balls may be bounced from a distance of 3 feet into a muffin pan. The six cups in the pan should be numbered to indicate the scores—50, 25, 15, 10, 5, and 1.

(c) From a distance of 4 feet a jack ball may be bounced into an open upright umbrella. Twenty-five points will be scored each time the ball remains inside the umbrella. The ball will usually strike on the side of the umbrella and continue rolling out the other side.

(d) A tennis ball may be bounced from a distance of 5 feet into an umbrella stand.

Games Involving Rolling or Tossing

(a) From a distance of 12 to 15 feet roll three balls of different degrees of resiliency in such a way as to make them stop in a barrel hoop placed

on the floor. Twenty-five points are scored for each successful attempt.

(b) Roll either hard boiled eggs or wooden darning eggs across the table so that they will stop within a cardboard ring having a diameter of not less than 6 inches.

(c) Using a calendar with relatively large numbers on it, toss three milk bottle tops from a distance of 8 feet so that they will rest on the numbers of the calendar. If the disk touches two of the numbers, the larger number may be taken in scoring.

Ten Pins

An excellent game of small ten pins may be played by substituting golf tees for the ten pins, setting them up in triangular form exactly as in a large game of ten pins. From a distance of 8 inches four small buttons are snapped as in tiddle-de-winks in an effort to knock down as many of the golf tees as possible. Twenty-five points are scored for each tee knocked down.

Shuffle Board

For a different game of shuffle board draw a diagram on the floor 5 feet long and 3 feet wide. (See diagram No. 1). Equipment consists of a broom handle and four hot plates. From a distance of 12 to 15 feet shove the hot plates with the broom handle one at a time into the scoring area. The largest number each plate touches is the one counted in scoring.

A small game of shuffle board may be played by using checkers instead of hot plates. Draw on a bridge table a triangular diagram. (See diagram No. 2.) Snap the checkers with the thumb and first finger, sliding them across the table into the scoring area.

Quoits

A simple game of quoits may be played by using rubber heels or flat rubber disks. Draw three concentric circles numbering them as in diagram

(Continued on page 205)

Nature Activities at a Boys' Camp



A County camp seeks for its boys the values which come from contact with Nature.

ON A PENINSULA extending into the east side of the Hudson River, about thirty miles from New York City, is the Westchester County Summer Camp. Looking east from camp across Croton Bay, one can see the City of Ossining nestled between the rugged hills of Westchester, while to the west is the Hudson hemmed in by the picturesque Palisades. This camp is unique in that it is conducted by Westchester County as a health camp for underprivileged children on the principle that it is more desirable to keep children healthy, both physically and mentally, than it is to repair damaged bodies or minds.

In the summer of 1932 four nature specialists were assigned to the nature department of the camp. These counselors were selected because of special interests or training in some of the various phases of nature work.

The first days at camp were spent in exploring the interests and aptitudes of both the children and counselors. By the end of the first week the work was divided into various projects, each nature man being responsible for his chosen subjects. With this division of labor the nature department made rapid progress. At our daily conferences we exchanged ideas, with the result that each project although in charge of one worker, represented the ideas and planning of the entire department.

Our aim was briefly stated by Miss Louise P. Blackham, camp director, as that of trying to develop the "seeing and understanding eye" in as many boys as possible. [We tried to arouse or create interest and to develop habits of observing things as well as hobbies rather than to teach the boys a way to recognize a definite number of

By J. D. READ

Nature Director

Westchester County Recreation Camp

snakes, trees or flowers.] We believed that if we could create or intensify a desire to know the plants, animals or natural phenomena, the boys would

continue to follow up this interest after leaving camp. If, on the other hand, in order to secure a badge the boys were required to memorize in a parrot-like way a set number of facts, their interest in nature would be over when their goal had been attained.

We felt that the nature department to be efficient must recognize the following objectives in building a program:

- (1) It must be interesting enough to draw and hold the boys.
- (2) It must be instructive, giving some useful, authentic information or explaining laws governing life.
- (3) It must be social, developing habits of desirable conduct towards animal and plant life.
- (4) It must be practical enough to create hobbies or interests which will carry over into the boy's life after camp closes.
- (5) It must be sufficiently inspirational to lift the boys into a world filled with living, moving, feeling animals and plants.
- (6) It must be esthetic enough to open the eyes of the boys to the beauties of nature.
- (7) It must be broad and varied enough to challenge the brightest boy and yet simple enough to reach the boy who knows little about nature.

The Program

In following the interests of the boys we devoted most of our time to the following: Bird, tree and exploration trips, trips to the ponds for insects and turtles, insect hunts and flower games,

and the construction of the nature trail, turtle pool, bird bath and sun dial, and the making of a relief map of the camp grounds.

Our projects and daily programs were based upon the interests of the boys, the training and experience of the counselors, the natural environments in which we lived, and the weather.

Our tasks were specialized. C. R. DeSola had charge of our work shop which served as a changing museum and vivarium. All of the discoveries of the boys were labeled and placed where they could be seen and examined at leisure for a few days and were then released. By placing close to the exhibits juvenile nature books dealing with the specimens, many boys caught the reading habit. Several turtle hunts were organized by Mr. DeSola who was an authority on reptile, fish and amphibian life. At camp fire programs his stories of strange animals never failed to hold the attention of the group.

L. W. Turrell was a friend of all the birds. The first weeks in camp were spent in observing over forty-eight different species on the Point, as well as watching six different broods rear their young. Several stone gathering expeditions were held and a chart of

the most common birds on the nature trail was made under Mr. Turrell's direction. A group of older boys under his guidance made a large relief map of the camp and constructed a sun dial.

Our "chief," F. D. Weston, was a master of Indian craft, and the boys spent many enjoyable afternoons listening to stories and folk lore of the Indians. Several cabins were decorated with tomahawks, bows and arrows, and clay pipes made under his direction. He was a great attraction at our camp fires as he always dressed in his native clothes. Two busy days were spent in making a life size Indian village with teepees and fires for a glorious program of Indian life.

My particular responsibility was the coordinating of the program. We went on many tree hikes observing the color, the general contour, the bark and leaves of thirty species. With the younger children flower games were very popular. Insects always aroused their curiosity, and many boys started to make collections of common field varieties for rainy day study. During nesting time the boys observed the family life of birds, and we tried in this way to arouse the protective instinct of all the boys. A few star gazing trips were made and several

An exhibit of this type helps greatly in teaching boys facts about Geology.



Courtesy Montclair, N. J., Board of Education

interesting exploration trips were conducted. Our nature trail was enlarged and improved by the boys who discovered a fern nook and constructed a turtle pool out of native material. At camp fire stories about local animals were told. As every boy was free to select what he wanted to do, it was necessary for us to arrange our morning trips so that we would not duplicate the work that day. In the mornings we concentrated on exploring, heavy construction work, and other activities involving physical labor. In the afternoon we carried on sketching, told animal or plant stories, watched birds, took short hikes, and did light work on projects. One glorious evening we went on an evening stroll. About fifty boys enjoyed the night songs of birds and insects, and watched the sun sink behind the Palisade hills.

Our groups numbered from sixteen to eighty. At times we would have three or four projects going at one time. We tried to keep the ratio of one counselor to every thirty boys on our trips. We also tried successfully the experiment of having the boys and girls meet on one trip to compare results.

On rainy days we did block leaf printing, spatter prints, sketched and painted drawings of insects collected on field trips, and attempted some landscape sketches. When it rained and was warm enough we went on rainy day hikes which were very popular.

On the overnight hikes a nature specialist was always present. New plants and animals were observed along the way. Over the smoking embers of the evening fire many stories were told.

A Few Special Activities

Turtle Hunts. Boys are always interested in a hunt or chase. An announcement of a turtle hunt the day before would bring out about eighty boys. Some of the boys would wade into the swamps up to their knees and then swim after the turtles. Some would catch larvae of insects in wire strain-

ers at the edge of the pools, while others would watch for insects on the swamp flowers. In all our projects the boys' interest in whatever happened to present itself was considered of paramount importance. Sometimes a bit of showmanship added to the trip by roundabout ways through tall cat-tails where they imagine possible danger lurks. On trips such as this the boys must be counted and kept in one group. It is important, too, to guard against poison ivy.

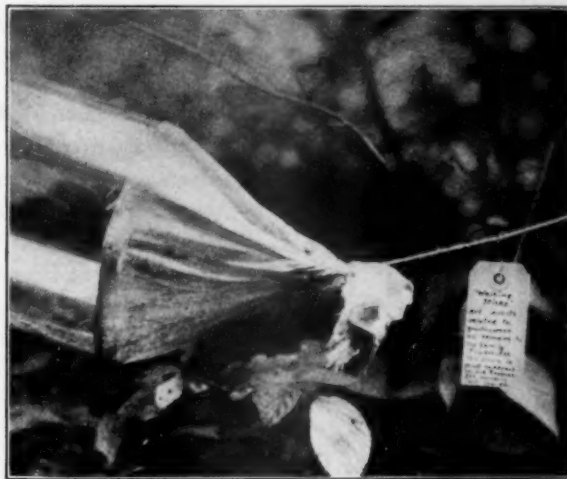
The Nature Trail. An ideal trail must be located close to camp where many can help make it and all may use it. After the beginning of the trail is determined the boys should be allowed to work out their own ideas as to where the trail should go and how it should be beautified. They

can label the trees and plants with the leaders' assistance. It was extremely interesting to see how diligently our boys worked on the trail and how they watched it every day to keep it in good shape. There were always plenty of guides to show visitors what had been accomplished.

The Turtle Pool

After the suggestion was given the boys planned the shape of the pool and the materials to use and did most of the work. Over sixty boys

helped complete this project. The bricks came from the beach and with their gathering came the story of brick making, as well as the early history of the Point. In exploring the sharp sand for the mortar we brought in the story of the glaciers and the geology of the Point. While the boys were digging the pool a harvest fly nymph was unearthed. On this discovery was hung the life cycle of the harvest fly as well as the seventeen year cicada. The boys learned how to mix and apply cement. Later they found two logs with which they made a rustic bench overlooking the pool and the river. The project was then beautified by planting ferns around one side of the pool. Many other useful and interesting ideas presented themselves to the boys as they rested in the cool shade or worked on the pool. It was the



Boys at camp can tell you that this celluloid container is used to enclose insects.

incidental learning caught from building the pool rather than the pool itself which made this a valuable project.

Council Fires. The nature department had charge of four council fire programs. Indian stories, tales of strange animals, as well as interesting stories of the animals about them, were told and the boys were led in singing. Judging by the perfect conduct of the group, the solemn singing of "taps" and the silent departure for camp, it was evident the boys had been greatly impressed. They heard night melodies, saw the beautiful sunsets, and felt that something great was all about them. They asked for many camp fires.

Lessons From Camp Life

During the season many remarks of the boys told us that our program was getting "inside" them and developing better habits and attitudes. During the building of the turtle pool I would hear the following: "Gee, when I get home I am going to build a pond for frogs and fish." "I can do that, too, for we have lots of old brick." "Me and Pete are going to make a trail in the woods back of our house." "Where can I get a net to catch insects?" "Say, Doc, what holds the stars up?"

We also heard such remarks as these: "Doc, this is the first time I have had a chance to know real men." "Doc, please take us on another overnight hike. We never slept out before we came to camp." "I used to be afraid in the dark before I came here, but here nothing hurts you." "Gee, Doc, I know the fellow that threw trash on the nature trail. I made him pick it up." "Doc, we had to make Freddy take a bath. He was awfully dirty." "Say, Doc, when you were gone the counselor of the day said we had the quietest cabin on the grounds."

One of the outstanding characteristics of camp last season was the close contact between the counselors and the boys, which gave many of the boys their first opportunity to catch the manly qualities which boys need so badly, for the most valuable lessons in life are "caught" rather than taught. Attitudes, emotional standards and habits of cleanliness and conduct are copied from their heroes more effectively than they are taught by parents, teachers or counselors.

A valuable experience gained in camp was that of acquiring the art of living a group life away from their parents or guardians. Boys who were

somewhat talkative and abusive the first days in camp soon learned by sad experience that it is not always wise to express themselves as they like. Certain names cannot be called and certain customs must be obeyed. They also learned cooperation by doing their daily camp chores. They soon became group conscious, willing to look after the other fellow as well as themselves. Another valuable experience that many boys enjoyed last summer was that of finding themselves. For the first time many of them had the opportunity to choose what they wanted to do with their time in camp. This enabled them not only to discover what activities gave them the most pleasure but also to develop confidence in themselves and the ability to make more intelligent judgments concerning their own welfare.

Through the camp program many boys learned the greatest lesson in life, that of living together happily. We do not believe in teaching nature, but we do believe that one of the best ways of teaching boys to appreciate themselves and society is to make them understand how law and order are established in nature where man is not present. This can be brought about only by the boys' close contact with something in nature that interests him. Thus we believe in the free choice and play way approach to nature for lasting results.

The camper must:

Be cheerful at all times.

Be fair and square in all the work and play of camp; in his relationships with other campers and counselors.

Be cooperative; willing to show less experienced campers how to do things; anxious to learn from more experienced campers; cheerfully willing to do things beyond his regular duties.

Be dependable; when given responsibility be sure to carry it out to the best of his ability without being reminded by counselors or others.

Strive to take advantage of the opportunities offered by this form of camp life for broadening his own life.

Think up new ideas and work out plans for carrying them out.

Be a friend whose companionship helps other campers become better men.

Be one who shows by his actions that he has grown in the above things during his season in camp.

From *Camp Life*, Summer issue, 1933.

The Need for Recreation in Times of Depression

THERE IS NOT only a need for recreation in times of depression, but recreation is a

necessity to a wholesome mode of living in normal times. We find ourselves at the present time in what is well known to be a depression. There is no doubt about there being maladjustments in our economic and social order. The effects of them have spread rapidly, wider and deeper, until almost every phase of society has been touched. It is not a local condition—it is world wide. We are close to the point where the spirit of our people is in danger of being broken. This must not happen. Until conditions have righted themselves, there is much that can be done to keep up the spirit of the people.

Play is an important factor in keeping our spirit aglow. For the many who have prospered temporarily, who have now lost their possessions and are out of work, the depression has a deep and significant meaning because they cannot supply the needs of normal living. What is there for them to do? The need of play and recreation is of paramount importance to them. Those who are in more fortunate circumstances (at least for the moment) must help to carry the burden. They too are not at ease. There is the uncertainty of their jobs and the thought of loss

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Chicago, Illinois

of home and savings. While the economic adjustments are being made, the daily routine of liv-

ing continues. People have to be fed, clothed, and housed, and their wants and feelings administered to. How to provide for their leisure time becomes an increasingly important problem. We then realize the importance of the need for play and recreation in our society. We find many people who are now *recreationally lost* because they have become accustomed to a form of recreation too expensive to continue under present circumstances. They need help and guidance in adjusting their recreational life as much as they do for their economic life. This shift of play life from the expensive and somewhat artificial to the simple has infinitely richer values for all.

Experience Has Taught Us

During the period of the war we learned a great deal about the need for recreation. That was another period of depression. It was a period of anxiety, of grave concern for our very existence. Our security was at stake and there were hardships and distressing situations at home and abroad. Every effort was made to get our country to come to the full realization that its people had to stand together for their protection and

Our first obligation is toward our children who are in no way responsible for the depression. Their unquenchable thirst for play is as dominant as ever.



security. In the main, cooperation in all industries was easy. Production was greatly stimulated to supply the needs of our common objective. Money was easily raised to meet expenses. The country introduced economy measures in every way—meat conservation, sugar conservation, and the conservation of clothing. All were driving toward the goal of victory. People willingly made individual sacrifices, went without their pleasures, and gave generously to their neighbors and to people whom they did not know for the sake of preserving the social order. Everyone recognized the need of keeping our service men in the very best of condition. It was the responsibility of the community to see that the proper recreational facilities were provided for the men when off duty. Millions of dollars were raised to supply these recreational needs. The government maintained extensive recreational activities as a regular part of the life of the soldier. It was essential to keep the *spirit* of the service men at the highest point, and everyone recognized the importance of this and was willing to give generously to provide for it.

It is interesting to note that in those exceedingly difficult and strenuous times there was no decrease in the recreational facilities for the community at large, but a decided *increase*. It is true, however, as we look upon it now, that a great many of these increased recreational facilities were of a very expensive sort. Nevertheless the community did realize the need of recreation as never before. Much of it has lasted and expanded.

Production in industry increased at a great rate. It was found under pressure that it was easy to do things on a large scale. People formed the habit of rush and speed and the pace of living became fast. It is taking considerable time to adjust to more normal conditions. We are now in the slowing up process. We are beginning to realize that it will be necessary to slow down. The depression is calling this to our attention very forcibly. The tension is being released from many strained situations, and in all it is a period of adjustment to a new order of living. We are seeing new values in life. We are seeing that the real values are not so much in material things as in our appreciation of the efforts of others, in serving others, and in living a happy and useful life as we go along.

What Play Does

We need to stop and play more. Friendships

are enriched and understanding is more meaningful when people play together. Play of this sort is not expensive. We do not need to depend so much upon the commercial type of recreation. There is much that can be done without cost. We need to play just for the fun of it. There is a release of spiritual values through play, and it is almost needless to mention the untold health values. They come when play is made a regular part of our daily life in the out-of-doors, hiking and tramping, skating, running, and in a wide range of activities.

Our first obligation, however, is toward our children. They are in no way responsible for a depression and do not understand the meaning of it. Their unquenchable thirst for play is as dominant as ever. Play is necessary for proper growth of the child. We have no more right to thwart or starve them of their play than we have to take food from them. We must see to it that our children have, in these times, as well as the proper food the proper recreational facilities and leadership. The play life is the educational life of the child and our future society depends upon our children of today. If the children form proper habits in play and make right use of their play time, many problems confronting our community will be solved. The records of the criminal courts and juvenile delinquency organizations give us many convincing facts to support these contentions.

We need to increase the facilities of our recreation clubs for boys and girls and to expand the recreational opportunities in the settlement and neighborhood houses. We need to increase our whole program of leisure time activities for our young people as we have never increased it before. It does not take a great deal of money to carry out a recreational program but it does take the time of people who see the importance of it and who can help in developing leaders and organizing our facilities to provide recreation for all. It is almost equal to a war emergency and united effort and cooperation are needed to make the "no man's land" of the depression a play field where a change of attitude and spirit can be made even though jobs may not be at hand at the moment. Money is not as necessary as leadership and help in promoting recreational activities.

We need to understand better the attitude of our young people if we are to be effective in providing the right kind of play life for them. It isn't so much that the young people are different

and out of gear with life, but it is more that we adults are out of step and do not keep pace with them. We can not understand our children and young people unless we play with them. There is a common and sympathetic understanding when people enjoy play experiences together. We cannot be make-believe players. We must actually have the spirit of play and share it with our children.

Parents often play generously and lovingly with little tots. They can handle and fondle them like small pets. It is not difficult to amuse small children, but later on the problem becomes more complicated and adults seldom make the full adjustment. The youngsters have become "play-wise" and unless the adult progresses in his forms of play along with the child, there is not a common play spirit and the real values of play are lost. What I have in mind especially is the very great need for the revival of the play spirit in our homes—the entire family playing together. Whenever a family plays together habitually rather than accidentally, you can count on it that it is a strong unit of society and a happy group of people.

Home Play Vital

What is the play program for a home? Are there times when your family goes on a "bat" together? Do you play games at home? Do you have facilities in your backyard for family play? If you golf, do you golf together, or is the play life of the family divided?

At this particular season of the year our thoughts turn toward the program for the summer, and what we might do even though times are difficult to make this summer as enjoyable as possible. Last summer I saw a family of six neatly tucked away in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains. Their car was equipped for camping purposes. With tent pitched, campfire burning coffee pot on the fire and every evidence that the father had prepared a good meal, this family, clad in bathing suits, was having a grand time. They had picked a beauty spot in this mountain region that had never been camped on before. There are millions of beauty spots in this country beckoning to families to come and camp on them this summer. It costs very little to live out in the open, and it is fun to do it.

We need a revival of play spirit in the home and in our community and especially among adults. Right now is a good time to make a start.

If a trip is impossible, there is much that can be done in your own backyard. Equip it with a fireplace and cook your meals over the open fire; provide recreational facilities suitable to that yard; visit with friends and neighbors; take time to sit and talk. The country side is full of interesting trails. Hiking is one of the most beneficial activities we have. If your shoes wear out, give the bare feet a chance to touch earth; it will be good for them. Fix up your fishing pole and line. It does not need to be a fancy one. Some of the biggest fish have been caught on a willow stick and a hook with a screw for a sinker. Do you swim? This summer is an excellent time to learn the exhilarating effect of swimming. The ability to swim is recognized now as almost a necessity, and above all it is a healthful and enjoyable form of recreation. Golf is within the reach of most people now. It is a fine game and one that gives you a thrill when the feeling of control has been accomplished.

In this time of unemployment and depression, recreation is an important brace to the lowered spirit of our communities. It can help change the point of view of people. It can change an individual and a group from gloom to joy. Let us make the play spirit of our home and our community contagious and the effects will be felt throughout the country.

"We cannot enjoy life until there is a common sense of well-being. The time is coming when the sort of leisure in which we are not constrained but free to choose our operations will be the norm of social life. The most significant fact in civilization is to become that part of life in which a man is active according to his own choice. Up to now we have made a fetish of efficiency, and the sacred ideas of American civilization have been that we must work, do, accomplish things, and be paid in proportion. This situation has poisoned our leisure. We have been too tired for creative pleasures. Life has been so filled with details of sacred duty of work that we have no time for leisure. . . . I am perfectly certain that any measure of work by what is paid for it is vicious. The relationship between work and reward has degraded our conception of work and leisure alike. The only thing that has relieved us has been our hobbies."—*Vida D. Scudder*, at the Alumnae Conference on Leisure, held at Wellesley College, April, 1933.

School Gardens in Detroit



The school gardens of Detroit have long been an important part of the recreation program

SINCE THE inauguration of the Department of Recreation in Detroit, gardening has been conducted as one of the activities supported by appropriation of the Common Council. The Department has always encouraged both the economic and esthetic phases of gardening, but during the World War and since the beginning of the depression greater emphasis has been placed upon growing and conserving food to help feed families. The original aim, however, remains unchanged—to lay the foundation for better citizenship and to give the growing boy and girl an opportunity for many-sided development.

The Department of Recreation enjoys the fine cooperation of the Board of Education and its Landscape Department, and of the superintendent, principals and science teachers of the public schools. It is through this cooperation that it has been possible to extend the work to the school children all over the city.

The parent of the Garden Department, the Home and School Garden Committee of the Twentieth Century Club of Detroit, has for a period of twenty-eight years distributed flower and vegetable seeds to pupils of the public schools at one cent a package. The money accruing from these sales has been turned back into the work in the form of awards to the schools in the annual garden contest in August and the annual flower festival contest in September. The money was also used in making it possible for the Garden Division of the Department of Recreation to carry on the work during the past year.

Cooperation is also given by Michigan's latest organization in the gardening field—the Michigan

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Detroit, Michigan

Horticultural Society—which has included in its constitution and by-laws a division for junior gardening. The Garden Department is a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of

Michigan and the School Garden Association of America, and is enrolled with the 4-H Clubs of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Wayne County Farm Bureau club work.

Method of Work

The school or community center serves as a unit of organization for the gardening program. By permission or invitation of the principal in charge, who very often assists in selecting the pupils who are to have gardens, an invitation is extended to all pupils of the fourth grade or upward through the eighth grade, or pupils of ten years of age to eighteen years who are willing to fulfill the requirements. These requirements are—to make and take care of a garden throughout the season; to keep a record of the garden (or canning); to make an exhibit, and to complete the project with a report and story of the garden.

The boys and girls who agree to carry out these provisions and who have permission from their parents or guardians to join the club are eligible to membership. Members elect their officers—president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer—under the leadership of the garden director. Meetings of one-half hour periods of school time are held regularly once a week or once in two weeks as the principal decides. During the season of planting the garden club is allowed a longer period, and during the summer vacation the club meets regularly in the school garden. All

meetings are conducted according to parliamentary procedure. The president occupies the chair, and at the close of the business meeting turns the program over to the director who has lesson or demonstration in charge. Both school and home gardens are conducted through the school vacation, from July 1st to September 15th. Canning classes are held every Thursday at the Elmwood Center.

For the school gardens, of which all but four are on school property, the Department of Recreation furnishes all equipment, seeds and tools, and prepares the ground.

Each boy or girl or class is given a plot. The children plant vegetables and flowers in the plots with the aid of the garden director, and take full care of the garden under leadership, cultivating, thinning, transplanting, watering, spraying and harvesting the crop. The children receive all the produce they raise to take home or do with as they wish.

Each garden is scored weekly, "A" being the highest rating. All neglected gardens and those plots which are rated "E" twice are given to new applicants. Members of the clubs are awarded with honor points, picnic, field trips and achievement pins.

For home gardens the members provide their own equipment, seeds and tools, receiving assistance in the preparation of the soil and all heavy work. The entire care of the garden must be the responsibility of the member. The garden director visits the garden twice during the season, oftener if possible.

Every garden club member is expected to conserve all surplus vegetables for winter use by canning. All who are interested in learning how to can vegetables and fruit by the One Period Hot Pack method, which is recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture, may become members of the canning clubs which in past years have met regularly once a week during July and August in the domestic science rooms of the public schools. The Board of Education furnished gas, water, gas ranges, and all equipment to be found in a kitchen. The Garden Department provided towels, cutlery, spoons, and the instructor.

The boys and girls and adults who wish to attend bring their vegetables, fruits, jars, rubber rings and similar material. All produce provided and canned by the club members belongs to them.

In 1932 it was necessary to reduce the number of clubs to one which met regularly from July 1st to September 15th in the kitchen at Elmwood Center. Seventeen hundred and eighty-six quarts were canned under the leadership of the Department.

The boys' and girls' clubs are federated and in the past have met regularly the last Saturday of each month except in December. This organization has had great influence in maintaining interest in gardening and canning and in stimulating club members to do their best. Unfortunately the depression has caused an indefinite postponement of the meetings.

It is the duty of the garden director to organize the garden and canning clubs, supervise all club meetings, teach the art of gardening to the club members in the school gardens, and follow up the work by visiting the club members' home gardens giving individual instruction there. The director also keeps a record of each club member's work and makes a weekly report of her own visits, work and attendance. She leads the club members on field trips, picnics and parties, attends the monthly meetings of the Detroit Federation of Boys and Girls Clubs, and is one of the Advisory Committee.

We have been able to see many good results from the gardening program. We have seen, for example, that the boy's and girl's interest in gardening and nature has helped them to decide upon seeking a higher training course of study and often to choose a vocation. At the present time we have two graduated foresters, both in government employ; several members of the club have continued as florists; some have become truck gardeners, and many have gone to farming. Many are home makers who have back yard gardens of their own and who fill the fruit closet each season with canned vegetables and fruit.

The greatest problem is to find teachers who are capable of assuming responsibility. A good garden or nature teacher should have personality and should be a lover of nature. She should possess some knowledge gained by actual work in a garden. The ideal teacher has an exceptional opportunity to lead children to a happy, successful life through the teaching of gardening science.

The Council of Social Agencies of Reading, Pennsylvania, has issued the following garden

(Continued on page 206)

World at Play



Courtesy Highway Engineer and Contractor

Sacramento Boys Go Camping

WHEN a special survey disclosed the fact that many of the boys in Sacramento, California, families receiving aid from relief funds were in poor physical condition, it was decided to give about a hundred of the most needy children a week's outing amid the healthful surroundings of the mountain country back of the city. The Boy Scouts offered the use of their camp, delightfully located and well equipped for the purpose, and the boys spent the week of July 31st to August 6th at the camp under the auspices of the Municipal Recreation Department, with Kenneth B. Fry, Director of Playgrounds, in charge. All boys were recommended by one of the relief agencies in the Community Chest. They were given a careful medical examination before and after attendance at camp. Exceptional care was given to diet, and the day's program provided a balance between activities and rest. No fees were charged but boys were asked to provide themselves with blankets or quilts, toilet articles, swimming suits and some personal effects. The week in camp resulted in increased weight for the 81 boys in attendance and greatly improved mental and physical condition.

Beach Property Recovered

THE City of Los Angeles, California, has won a suit instituted several years ago by the city on behalf of the Playground and Recreation Department to return to public ownership a strip of beach more than 100 feet in width and several blocks in length. A private residence was built on a portion of the land. "The decision of

the court was hailed by the Playground and Recreation Department officials not only as a victory for public ownership of beaches but also as a reiteration of the principle that beach land built up by artificial secretion of sands due to piers or other structures jutting into the sea became public property when the tide lands from which the beach arose were also public property."

A Library Serves the Unemployed

THE sixty-first annual report of the public library of Lawrence, Massachusetts, shows a total circulation of 407,081 volumes in 1932, an increase of more than 20 per cent over 1931. It has been apparent from overcrowded reading and newspaper rooms that large numbers of people out of work are utilizing their spare time reading. "The library in these hard times," states the report, "has proved itself to be a solace to the unemployed, a release to the discouraged, and an encouragement to those still hopeful."

Tennis In Detroit

TENNIS players on courts maintained by the Recreation Department of Detroit, Michigan, are being asked to pay a fee after 1:00 P. M. The players will have the privilege of making reservations twenty-four hours in advance upon payment of the fee of 20 cents per hour per court. The fee is the same regardless of the number of persons using the court during the hour. In order to give the unemployed an opportunity to play free, no charge will be made for the use of the courts during the morning hours.

Wilkes Barre's Store Employees Association

—The Store Employees Association of Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, organized in 1923 by the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, has issued its first monthly bulletin, "The Spot Light." It represents forty-eight teams in the seven leagues of bowlers and a number of basketball and volley ball leagues. In cooperation with the School Board, swimming classes have been scheduled. A fee of \$.25 includes instruction, towel and soap. In addition, a half hour dip may be had once a week in the Y. W. C. A. pool for a fee of \$.10. Other activities include tap dancing, and for men a ground school course in aviation.

In the Chicago Shelters—In the infirmary of the Chicago shelters there are from 400 to 500 men ranging in age from sixty to eighty. For their recreation stereopticon slides are shown. Singing is very popular with these men.

Fitchburg Reports Developments—On July 4th a new swimming pool in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, was dedicated and turned over to the Park Commission making the city the proud possessor of one of the largest outdoor pools in this section of the country. Through unemployment relief funds the city has received \$50,000 worth of labor. Grading and surfacing have been done at all the grounds. The tennis courts, ball diamonds and children's areas are in excellent condition. Two new areas have been developed and the Commission is now arranging to build a \$3,000 shelter and storage house on each of the three grounds. For this organized labor has agreed to contribute all the work necessary. Bricks and lumber, too, are being provided making it necessary to spend only a few hundred dollars for roofing and nails.

A Dramatic Festival—The women of Lansing, Michigan, held a demonstration on March 8th and 9th, when the recreation clubs conducted by the Department of Public Recreation presented a number of plays interspersed with music. The plays given were "Sauce for the Goslings," "Three Little Maids from School Are We," "The Making of Feathertop," "Mother's Day Off," "Thursday Evening," "Kidnapping Betty," "Who's the Boss?" and "Joint Owners in Spain."

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Basketball in Its Early Stages—The suggestion is under consideration that the prehistoric ancestor of basketball be featured with its archeological settings at the world's fair in Chicago. Describing the project, Major George O. Totten, Jr. of Washington, who designed a number of the embassy buildings in the national capital, says:

"The ball court of ancient Yucatan, at Chichen Itza, would be of great interest to exposition visitors not only architecturally and archeologically but it would have a purpose that would attract thousands. Here the great ball game of the ancient Mayas could again be played. It was a splendid game, similar to our basketball except that the ball was struck by different parts of the body and not tossed by hand. The Siamese and many Pacific islanders still play ball in a similar manner. The game in Yucatan seems to have been brought there from the Valley of Mexico by the Nahaues about 1200 A. D."

A Study of Delinquency—Miss Katherine Krieg, Director of Recreation in Des Moines, Iowa, reports an interesting study of delinquency in her city. From the figures now available, a 60

per cent increase in delinquency is shown for the entire city where there are no playgrounds and a 22 per cent increase where playgrounds have been organized. This study which Miss Krieg is making covers a period of four years.

Rural Recreation Councils Created—As a result of the recreation training institute for rural leaders conducted in California by the National Recreation Association, in cooperation with the cooperative extension work of the United States Department of Agriculture, recreation councils have been organized in practically all the counties where the institutes were held. Many of them are very active and are meeting regularly. In a number of other states similar groups are known as recreation leaders' committees or associations.

In a Small Community—Waterford, Wisconsin, a community of less than 1000 people, is to have an athletic field on ground purchased for the sewerage disposal plant. A board, representing the village, volunteer fire department, the Lions Club and the American Legion, has been appointed to take charge of the development of the field, and a schedule of work to be done has been laid out.

For the Physically Handicapped—The Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission in cooperation with a special committee of the Elizabeth Rotary Club, last year performed a constructive piece of work in connection with a group of physically handicapped children. Six picnics were arranged for the children in three of the parks. The physical condition of the children varied from minor handicaps to others which prevented them from taking part in very active games. The directors encouraged the children in every way to take part in all of the different activities planned. It was observed that with each succeeding picnic the children entered the games with greater interest, confidence and enjoyment. Different types of games were experimented with from quiet table games to baseball and other active sports. Much improvement was noted in several of the boys and girls. One or two who were sure they could not run very soon forgot themselves and played freely with the other children, their handicaps completely forgotten.

No Funds But On They Go!—The Department of Recreation and Playgrounds of Lynchburg, Virginia, reports that with a reduction in

budget for equipment no funds are available for the purchase of ropes, jacks, volley balls, croquet and other equipment used in the spring tournaments. Supplies are therefore being secured from other sources. A traction company is providing the department with trolley rope which is being used for jumping ropes, and petitions are being circulated for nets and lime so that the tennis courts may be reconditioned.

Jig Saw Puzzles in the Play Program—A jig saw puzzle contest has been one of the events in the program of the Recreation Board of Wilmette, Illinois, which is sponsored by the Board of Education. The contest, which was held on the afternoon and evening of April 12th, was conducted in one of the schools. The winner of the contest for school children finished a one hundred piece puzzle in exactly twenty-four minutes. The senior tournament contestants were given two hundred piece puzzles to solve. It took the winner in this classification an hour and twelve and a half minutes to put her puzzle together.

The jig saw craze, it is predicted by George W. Braden, district representative of the N. R. A., will outlast the fad for miniature golf and will lead eventually to an increased use of table games, such as dominoes, checkers, chess and cards. Jig saw puzzles have been a popular amusement "off and on" for a quarter of a century, according to Mr. Braden. Thousands of puzzles were used during and after the war to entertain wounded soldiers in Italy.

Admission Fees Reduced—Last summer the Union County Park Commission reduced admission fees to the swimming pools and beaches at Rahway and Linden, New Jersey. Children were admitted each week day morning, including Saturdays, without charge. In the afternoon they paid 10 cents instead of 15 cents. Adults paid 20 cents instead of 25 cents, while on Sunday and holidays rates were 40 cents instead of 50 cents for adults, and 20 cents instead of 25 cents for children. The cost of renting bathing suits was also reduced. On July 11th the Commission reported that the number of visitors to the parks had increased, and in spite of several week-ends of bad weather in June the increase in attendance over June, 1931 was 20 per cent. Baseball, soft ball, fishing, handball and nationality programs showed the greatest gains. At one of the parks a fly casting platform has been erected and a contest held. Instruction

"Recreation and Unemployment"

- A publication of interest to all individuals and groups concerned with keeping up the morale of the unemployed.
- The booklet tells what a number of community groups are doing to meet the problem, how buildings of all kinds are being used as recreation centers, and describes the activities conducted. Plans for organization are suggested and information given regarding the made work program through which many cities are increasing their recreation facilities.

PRICE \$0.25

National Recreation Association

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in casting was provided one day a week for any interested.

Safety Posters—The Education Division of the National Safety Council, 1 Park Avenue, New York City, has issued three attractive colored posters which may be of interest to recreation workers. While the emphasis is on safety, the posters show play activities and are attractively designed and executed. The price is 35 cents for a single set, 30 cents for 50 or more, and 25 cents in quantities of 100 and over.

Bird Houses Galore!—It was a gala day when the boys of the public playgrounds in Detroit, Michigan, presented to Park Commissioner Henry W. Busch more than 500 bird houses which they had made during the winter. These houses will be set up for the use of the birds who make their home on Belle Isle.

A Water-Works Plant Becomes An Athletic Field—The Borough of Fair Lawn, New Jersey, in which Radburn is located, is grading, top surfacing and planting the ten acre water-works property for an athletic field and playground. The Borough voted \$3,000 from the unemployment fund for the work. The development will eventually include football, baseball and soccer fields,

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Troy, Ohio.

playground baseball diamonds, eight tennis courts and facilities for handball, basketball and volleyball. There will also be included a secluded children's playground and a quarter mile track with running pits.

The Flower Market Tot Lot Playground

(Continued from page 168)

First offenders are given a membership in the club either by the captain of police or the magistrate. He is told to use the club and is expected to be found there.

These young men have learned to respect property rights. Let no one make the mistake of

breaking in or destroying the furniture of their club! When a member has not been able to restrain himself from using liquor either to forget his troubles or to put life into his dull existence, and comes to the club, he always leaves a sober member. There are always on hand any number of members who voluntarily undertake the task of making him sober! Often three or four rounds in the boxing ring are sufficient.

The complete story of this venture cannot now be written, but its opening chapters seem to offer the method for the organization of similar clubs in neighborhoods where the problem to be met is as acute as in this district.

Plays and Pageants for the Playground

(Continued from page 173)

be adapted for the out-of-doors. There is a royalty of \$5.00 for each performance but it is well worth this nominal sum.

Special occasions, such as Health Week, Fourth of July, Safety Week and similar occasions, may be culminated with an appropriate play or pageant embodying the principles which were stressed during the particular event. For Health Week, do by all means try *The Little Vegetable Men* by Eleanor Glendower Griffith, or *The Magic Oatfield* by the same author. Both are contained in *Dramatizing Child Health* by Grace T. Hallock, published by the American Child Health Association, 450 Seventh Avenue, New York. If these do not suit your purpose, address the National Tuberculosis Association in New York City for their booklet, entitled *Plays and Pageantry*. This is a descriptive list of health plays recommended by the National Health Council from which you will be sure to find material adaptable to almost any cast.

Excellent for the Fourth of July is *The Cracker Conspiracy* by Alice Townsend, and *Bruin's Inn* by the same author can be strongly recommended for a Safety Week celebration. These are published by Education Division, National Safety Council, 1 Park Avenue, New York.

Read This Letter

"When I moved in as Director of Crystal Pool, Glen Echo Park, Maryland, right under my arm I carried your complete Reference Book — Notable Swimming Pools and Guide to Equipment and Supplies.

"This Guide has served me dozens of times already. It is, indeed, the Pool Bible.

“(Signed)

“CAPT. EDW. H. McCRAHON.”

NOTE: Before becoming Director of Glen Echo, Capt. McCrahon was for seven years manager of Spa Municipal Pool and Beach, St. Petersburg, Fla.

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THIS \$2.00 VOLUME WILL BE SENT FOR 54 CENTS IN STAMPS. IF THE SUPPLY HAS BEEN EXHAUSTED UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR STAMPS, SAME WILL BE RETURNED

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Canoeing and Tennis in a County Park System

(Continued from page 175)

The interest developed by tennis was so keen that requests for permission to conduct ladder

tournaments were received. They were so arranged as not to interfere with normal use of the courts by those not interested in tournament play. The method followed was relatively simple. On the bulletin board of the club house was placed a chart ranking the players somewhat arbitrarily, it is true, though pretty much in line with the results of the elimination tournaments held in July. Any one feeling he was out of place might challenge a player not more than three rounds up the ladder from his own position, the one challenged being under obligation to accept or lose his rank by default. Matches were for two out of three sets, the results being handed in to the starter at the courts on a memorandum slip signed by the players.

These tournaments were participated in almost entirely by adults. Freeholder Zenas Crane, feeling that juniors should be encouraged, offered trophies for the winners of a tournament to be conducted the latter part of September and the early part of October, play in which should be confined to novices residing in Essex County.

Tin Can Craft on the Playground

(Continued from page 178)

which goes against the tin. After placing some small flattened pieces of self-fluxing solder under the design, bind it to the object with wire or string using a small block or wedge of wood over the design to hold it securely in place. The wooden wedge should be very small so as not to hide the design. Now apply heat to the opposite side of the tin object and as soon as the solder flows, remove the heat.

There are many other articles that can be made from tin, such as flower holders, tea trays, coasters and desk sets, Christmas tree ornaments and toys of all kinds. The drama enthusiast can use tin in many ways for imitation jewelry, coats of mail, head-dresses and reflectors for footlights.

How to Produce a Play

(Continued from page 179)

ability, not personality or characterization, but something often rare but always necessary called "dependability!" The genius who does not come to rehearsals, or who will not learn his lines before the dress rehearsal, is not an asset; he's a distinct



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liability. Of course the actor must be given a chance. Determining dependability is a matter of "trial and error," but if Mary is cast into a part, and she comes around to two rehearsals out of seven, the next time the director is casting he will know exactly where to cast Mary!

The voice of the applicant should be considered carefully. Does it carry well enough to be heard in the last row? Is it clear enough to be understood in all rows? Is it in character for the part? Perhaps the director is searching for some one to play an old man of seventy. If a young man can make his voice sound seventy, he can be made to look seventy.

Appearance is also important. Can this actor be "made up" for the part? Make-up has great possibilities, but there are limits to its effectiveness. Size and bodily stature must be considered. A six foot heroine playing opposite a five foot hero is apt to be most embarrassing in the love scenes.

The applicant's manner of walking, his movements, and his carriage should be noted.

The imagination of the applicant will show in his interpretation of the lines, his idea of the characterization, and any little bits of business that he may use in giving the try out lines.

Some of the lines used in the try out should be of an emotional nature, so that the sincerity and emotional sensitiveness of the applicant can be tested.

The applicant's acting experience should be considered. Acting, like most other good things, improves with age. The director should beware of always casting his actors in the same type of role. In some groups it is dangerous to be too good an actor. If a young man makes a success of an old man's part, he may be doomed to play old men for the rest of his life. Actors should be given a chance to show their ability in different types of roles.

An occasional "work shop" production is recommended to little theatres and dramatic clubs for the purpose of discovering new talent and of helping the newer members of the group to secure experience. These should always be advertised as "work shop" productions, and the admission fee should be small.

It should always be made clear to the applicants who are not given a part that no reflection is being cast upon their acting ability. Some one else fits the part in this play better than they do. In the

next production they may be better suited to a role than any one else. They should be urged to try out for the next play.

National Forest Playgrounds of the Pacific Northwest

(Continued from page 182)

U. S. Forest Service in cooperation with the National Broadcasting Company, and are usually based on actual happenings in the life and work of the forest rangers. They tell the story of Ranger Jim and his young assistant, Jerry, and the activities and adventures connected with their work on one of Uncle Sam's National Forests.

The program is broadcast on Thursdays at 1:00 p. m. eastern standard time, from forty-nine NBC stations east of the Rockies. In the western States they are presented by NBC stations on Mondays at 12:45 p. m. Pacific time. A party, with or without lunch, at your center to listen-in each week to Jim and Jerry might be a good attraction, especially in these days of unemployment and enforced leisure. The series is instructive as well as entertaining, and, if for no other reason, you will love Ranger Jim and his assistant because they are so human.

Puppet Shows. If you are interested in making puppet shows, you might very well adapt some of the ranger playlets to the purpose. The scenery would be simple to make and the figures no more difficult than the average puppets. Flannel shirt, khaki breeches, puttees, and stetson hat would be the desirable uniform of the rangers. The various other characters could be dressed as the imagination suggests. The shows could be very entertaining, for Rangers Jim and Jerry could be put through any number of thrilling adventures.

Paul Bunyan, that mythical super-human lumberjack of the North Woods would also make an excellent subject for the puppet show, especially if he is accompanied by "Babe" his "Big Blue Ox." Paul, who was supposed to be of gigantic proportions, would tower over any other character that entered the shows. By following some of the plots of the numerous stories about him, Paul could be taken through any number of amusing and fearsome exploits. Your local library can furnish books containing stories of Paul Bunyan and his big blue ox.

Arbor Day. Spring is the time for Arbor Day celebrations and tree plantings. Perhaps this year you want a different kind of celebration. Why not have a forestry play or pageant this spring? It is, of course, more interesting for a recreation group to write its own playlet, but if you do not wish to do this there are a number of plays you could use. One of the new ones, "All Aboard the Forestry Special," by Mrs. Francis H. Doud, is simple and makes an effective outdoor production. Information regarding this playlet as well as suggestions for an Arbor Day program may be obtained from the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Popularizing the Swimming Badge Tests

(Continued from page 183)

been going over your tests with my staff and we feel that they are very comprehensive and of great value in the progress of swimming." Nathan L. Mallison, Superintendent of Recreation of Jacksonville, Florida, states: "The tests are mighty popular with our swimmers." L. G. Bursley of the Cooperstown Playground, Cooperstown, New York, writes: "These tests are very popular in our classes and we expect to devote one week to give other new members an opportunity to take them." "I have only used the first tests as yet but I find they are very good and the boys and girls enjoy them," writes J. H. Juel, Director of Swimming, Ashland Foundation, Ashland, Wisconsin. "They give the boys and girls a challenge and the pupils work hard to pass them. I believe the swimming for speed is also very good because it usually means the pupil must improve on his swimming form to be able to swim a certain distance in a certain time."

Interest in the tests is widespread as indicated by the various types of organizations which have used them. Universities, colleges and normal schools, Y.M.C.A.'s, Y.W.C.A.'s, recreation departments, high schools, junior high schools, Boy Scouts, camps and similar groups are represented on the list.

Further information may be secured from the Correspondence and Consultation Bureau of the National Recreation Association.

Hidden Wealth Revealed by Bankers

(Continued from page 186)

be very much enlivened. The satisfaction of contributing so directly to an admirable community

88 Successful Play Activities

- A complete revision of the booklet which has been proving so practical for a number of years.
- Many new activities have been added. Of special interest to the play leader are chapters on *Side-walk Games* and *Home Equipment Games* never before included.
- A section on Tournaments gives full directions for a number of contests.
- Other chapters deal with *Music and Drama*, *Shows and Exhibits*, *Nature Play* and *Winter Sports*.

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project should also be inspiring. New groups might come into being as a result of the opportunity or need for them. Furthermore, the gathering of people for music might be a perfect occasion for introducing other recreational activities to them. For example, after a concert and "sing" lasting until 9:30 the audience might be invited to an hour's "social recreation," or to an opportunity to learn folk dances that they have just been watching. In a center where hand-crafts, dramatics or other such activities are provided, the musical evenings might win many people to them also.

The "evenings of music" might thus serve well not only all the hopes aroused by Dr. Woodin's address, but also some other good hopes of the recreation leader.

A Progressive Contest Party

(Continued from page 188)

No. 3. From a distance of 10 feet toss the heels or rubber disks so they will rest within the scoring area.

Other Games

Several good games may be played by sliding small disks into a scoring area, such as that il-

Magazines and Pamphlets

(Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker)

MAGAZINES

- Beach and Pool*, May 1933.
Water Basket Polo, by E. Gordon Bowman.
- The Parents' Magazine*, June 1933.
What Is Worth While Recreation? by Joshua Lieberman.
Enchanted Island, by Rose G. King.
- New Jersey Municipalities*, May 1933.
Play and Playgrounds, by Allen G. Ireland, M.D.
- American Forests*, June 1933.
Forest Theatres, by Emerson Knight.
- Junior League Magazine*, May 1933.
More Than Meat, by Weaver Pangburn.
- Independent Woman*, May 1933.
Leisure Time in Modern Life, by Howard Braucher.
- The American City*, June 1933.
Unemployed Build Two Roadways in New Orleans City Park Extension.
A Parking Charge to Finance Beach Protection, Savannah Beach, Ga.
A Gift of Fine Magnolia Trees As a Memorial.
- The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, June 1933.
The Extra-Curricular Program and Leisure-Time Training, by Gertrude Moulton, M.D.
Activities for the Playground and Recreation Program, by Norman F. Kunde.
Leisure-Time Panel Discussion, by Frederick Rand Rogers, Ph.D.

PAMPHLETS

- Eleventh Annual Report, Recreation Department of Passaic, N. J.*, 1932.
- Annual Report of the Park Department for the Year Ending December 31, 1932, Salem, Mass.*
- The Visual Fatigue of Motion Pictures*
Amusement Age Publishing Co., New York City.
Price \$1.00.
- Annual Report of the Boy Scouts of America*, 1932.

illustrated in diagram No. 4. A good disk to use is a metal washer with a three-quarter inch center. From a distance of 10 feet slide three metal washers into the scoring area. In scoring use the highest number each washer touches.

On a piece of cardboard draw a diagram, shown in No. 5, making sure that the diagram is not more than 8 inches in diameter. From a distance of 6 inches from the edge of the diagram spin a milk bottle top by holding the disk on top by the index finger of the left hand and snapping it with the thumb and index finger of the right hand so that it will stop within the diagram. In scoring count the largest number touched.

Using the same type diagram as in No. 5, from a distance of 6 inches snap four small buttons

into the scoring area in the same manner as tiddle-de-winks are snapped. In scoring the largest number touched is counted.

A game in which a simple spinner is used may be made by setting a small handled pan within a sauce pan. The two pans are placed on a numbered cardboard so that the handle of the small pan may be used as an indicator to point to the different numbers when it stops spinning. Each player chooses a different color button, spins the handle of the pan and moves his color button on a score sheet numbered from 1 to 100, the number of the space being indicated by the handle of the pan. At the end of the time allotted, each player multiplies by five the number upon which his button rests.

When these games are played by adult groups it is well to place as many as possible on tables.

School Gardens in Detroit

(Continued from page 197)

score sheet on the basis of which flags are awarded. A blue flag designates excellent garden, a red flag, good garden, and a white, average garden.

1. Arrangement and use of ground....30 points

Are the rows long or are there short rows and beds? Is there succession of crops to keep all parts of the garden working all of the time? Is the space wasted, walks are not needed?

2. Cultivation and freedom from weeds. 30 points

Is the surface soil kept fine and loose to serve as a mulch to hold moisture and to permit air to circulate through it? The rows should not be hilled. The surface should be kept fairly level. There will be less surface exposed for evaporation of moisture. Keep all weeds out at all times.

3. Control of diseases and insects.....20 points

Have sprays been applied early so as to prevent rather than cure? Supplement spraying by gathering insects and insect eggs as they appear.

4. Crop condition20 points

Has water been supplied in dry weather to keep the crop growing? Soak the ground around the plant once or twice weekly rather than a light sprinkling each day. Do not hoe crops when they are wet. Have the plants been succored, such as tomatoes?

Total.....100 points

New Books on Recreation

Summer Camps - A Guide For Parents

Edited by Beulah Clark Van Wagenen. Child Development Institute, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$25.

THIS VALUABLE pamphlet has been prepared in an attempt to present as far as possible a complete picture of the kinds of provisions which a camp should make for the adequate care and guidance of children. It takes up the educational features, discusses creative ideas in children's camps, outlines some essentials of a creative handcraft program, and offers some suggestions as to how nature lore and games may be made creative channels. Other subjects discussed are Guidance in the Summer Camp, the Relationship of Home and Camp, the Essence of Good Leadership, and Provision for Physical Welfare. A bibliography and sources of information on camping are given.

The Carpenter's Tool Chest

By Thomas Hibben. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. \$2.00.

AN ORDINARY tool chest may seem a prosaic thing. But the historical setting which the author, a distinguished architect, has given each tool makes this book a delightful study. Under Mr. Hibben's clever handling the story of the humble carpenter's tools becomes the story of the human race. Aztec, Egyptian, Greek, Roman, American—the entire pageant of man passes through these pages. "It is an account," one commentator has said, "of how the woodworkers since earliest time have shaped the world we live in." The numerous illustrations offered aid greatly to the fascination of the story.

Selected Recreational Sports

(For Girls and Women)

By Julia H. Post and Mabel J. Shirley. A. S. Barnes & Company, New York. \$2.00.

IN THIS BOOK an attempt has been made to present material which may prove helpful in teaching some of the recreational types of activities which are occupying an increasingly important place in the school program. Games have been selected which require small space, a small number of participants and no specific costume and from which a player may derive enjoyment even though he has little skill. Eight sports have been chosen—deck tennis, horseshoe pitching, Badminton, table tennis, shuffle board, clock golf, paddle tennis, and tether ball. Diagrams for the layout of courts are given, equipment is listed and there are suggestions for its care.

Girl Scout Day Camps

Prepared by Program Division, Girl Scouts, Inc., 570 Lexington Avenue, New York. \$20.

IN VIEW OF THE increasing popularity of the day camp, this booklet which discusses administration, minimum standards and waterfront safety, will be of special interest. While it has been written primarily to meet the

needs of Girl Scout groups, practically all of the suggestions offered may be readily adapted to the needs of groups of all kinds. The booklet contains much valuable information for the recreation worker.

The Right Book For The Right Child

Compiled under the auspices of the American Library Association. The John Day Company, New York. \$2.50.

THE BOOKS in this graded list of children's books have been selected and annotated by a subcommittee of the Committee on Library Work with Children of the American Library Association under the chairmanship of Mary S. Wilkinson. They have been graded by the Research Department of the Winnetka Public Schools. Here is to be found a composite buying list of books for children, including a pre-school list of picture books and books to read aloud to children between two and five years of age, and books for children to read to themselves from the time they enter school until they are ready for high school. Brief information is given regarding the content of each book. Publisher and price are included. It would be difficult to find a more carefully chosen or comprehensive list of books for children than this volume offers.

American Red Cross First Aid Text-Book

P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Inc., 1012 Walnut Street, Philadelphia. \$.60.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS has issued a new *First Aid Text-Book*. This is not a revision of the old Text-Book familiar to so many recreation workers but an entirely new book with a new set of illustrations which have been increased in number. Recreation workers will want to add this book to their kits.

Social Work Year Book 1933

Edited by Fred S. Hall. Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East 22nd Street, New York. \$4.00.

THE SECOND ISSUE of the Social Work Year Book represents a decided expansion over the first edition which appeared in 1929. Thirty new topical articles are included and the Directories of Agencies which comprise Part Two are supplemented by an entirely new list of public agencies, departments and bureaus which are related to social work. The volume, of almost 700 pages, gives a bird's-eye view of the many types of social and civic services which are being performed by private and public agencies in the field of health, delinquency, mental hygiene, progressive education and many other types of endeavor. An article on recreation tells of developments in the entire leisure time field through the efforts of public and private agencies.

The Social Work Year Book is an invaluable source of information not only for the social work, editor and librarian, but for the layman wishing data on current social trends and forces.

Games and Field Day Programs.

Compiled and edited by Eleanor Clarke Slagle. Published by Department of Mental Hygiene, State of New York, State Office Building, Albany. \$75.

This syllabus is designed to be of assistance to workers in the division of physical training activities and to other interested persons employed in the hospitals, the schools and the epileptic colony of the State Department of Mental Hygiene. Over 250 games and activities are described in which adaptations have been made to fit them for the use of the patients. A number of special day programs are included. All the activities have been tried out with patients and known to be well adapted to definite groups. The book has much to offer workers in all branches of recreation.

How To Help.

Edited by Mabel B. Ellis. Published by National Women's Committee, Welfare and Relief Mobilization, 570 Lexington Avenue, New York. Free.

This handbook represents a joint effort to interpret social work in all its aspects, but particularly as it contributes to the protection of human values during a period when all such values are threatened by widespread economic disturbances. Part One presents something of the background, interprets the various forms of social work and tells how the different services fit together in community planning. Part Two suggests ways of getting and using the facts, and offers a reading list. Part Three is a listing of the agencies participating in the Welfare and Relief Mobilization of 1932.

Miss Ellis has brought together in this handbook in concise, clear form a vast amount of information about the social problems to be found in any community and the essential social services needed to meet them. It is a timely and much needed contribution to the literature of social forces.

Notable Swimming Pools and Guide to Equipment and Supplies.

Hoffman-Harris, Inc., 114 East 32nd Street, New York. \$2.00.

A complete reference book on swimming pools is this comprehensive volume which offers a vast amount of information to groups contemplating the construction of pools. The first section deals with notable swimming pools and contains illustrations and descriptions of pools representative of the highest standards in the field, both architecturally and from the viewpoint of sanitation. The second section is a compendium of laws, rules and regulations and presents committee reports on details of construction such as runways and sidewalks, filtration, recirculating systems, disinfection and other features. This section is followed by a number of articles on various subjects by outstanding authorities. The final section contains the guide to equipment and supplies.

Recreation workers may receive this valuable book at a greatly reduced rate.

Camps and Public Schools.

By Marie M. Ready. Circular No. 74. Office of Education, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

A mimeographed statement giving information regarding camps maintained or directed by boards of education in city public schools and camps operated by various public and private agencies for school children. "In general," states the report, "the camping movement in its relationship to public schools is as yet in its infancy. Its possibilities of development are unlimited. Within the next decade many week-end and day camping excursions will no doubt be included as a part of the regular school work carried on in public schools and many summer sessions will be held entirely out-of-doors or in camps."

Track and Field.

By Charles W. Paddock. A. S. Barnes & Company, New York. \$2.50.

In this book the author, an Olympic champion and world's record holder, has set down clearly the fundamentals of track and field events. A complete summary of all records is given, together with descriptions of outstanding achievements. In the back of the book are to be found ruled pages for school or college records and pages for listing new world's records as they occur.

Sweeping the Cobwebs.

By Lillian J. Martin and Clare de Gruchy. The Macmillan Company, New York, \$1.50.

Dr. Martin, still a successful consulting psychologist at the age of eighty, and her collaborator, Miss de Gruchy, in this book tell in concrete detail how they have helped people who dread advancing age to overcome their handicaps, both real and imaginary, and how people can help themselves. Of recreation and amusement the authors say: "Real recreation and amusement act as wings to lift us out of the humdrum of our lives and give us inspirational stimulation to carry on daily living on an ascending plane. . . . Too many avocations or hobbies are only time passers, but those that are real and spontaneous to the individual are those that will furnish him the conditions of unique pleasure in their pursuit and give to his life a mental stimulation that will carry him forward with renewed vigor, courage and hope."

The Adolescent Boy.

By Winifred V. Richmond, Ph.D. Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

This book, presenting as it does, the problems of normal and abnormal youth and tracing the history of adolescence through the ages, will help recreation workers to understand better the young people with whom they are dealing. Personal experience and case histories add to its interest for the layman for whom the book is intended.

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